



Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby, center, prepares to cut the ribbon dedicating the new Panola Senior Center in Colbert. Gov. Anoatubby was joined Jan. 27 by tribal elected officials and several area elders. The new facility marks the 12th tribal Senior Center. Mike McKee

New Panola Senior Center dedicated

COLBERT, Okla. – Gov. Bill Anoatubby was joined by tribal officials and many of the area's elders to dedicate the Chickasaw Nation Panola Senior Center in a ribbon cutting ceremony Friday, Jan. 27 at Colbert.

The renovated Senior Center, at 1015 Moore Street, will be available to hundreds of Chickasaw and Native Ameri-

can elders who live in the area.

"Chickasaw elders are the living treasures of our tribe," Gov. Anoatubby said. "We, as Chickasaw citizens, truly respect our elders and this new facility is part of our continuing efforts to enhance their lives. This spacious center will provide a great place for our elders to come together to social-

ize, exercise, share a meal and enjoy many activities."

The 4,850 square-foot structure offers patrons many amenities and includes a kitchen, craft room, dining room and a computer area.

Last year, almost 150,000 meals were served at the Chickasaw Nation Senior Center.

SEE PANOLA SENIOR CENTER, PAGE 18

Ground broken on softball facility

ADA, Okla. - Gov. Bill Anoatubby was joined by tribal officials, fellow Chickasaws and Ada-area residents Jan. 31, to break ground on the new Chickasaw Nation Softball Complex.

The facility will be built at 2000 North Country Club Road.

Gov. Anoatubby said the 12-acre softball complex came to

fruition because of requests from Chickasaw citizens.

"Several Chickasaw citizens and community members have requested facilities for athletics and family-friendly activities," said Gov. Anoatubby. "In response to those requests, this park will be a place for everything from organized tournament play to casual games and

family reunions."

The new softball complex will include two regulation-sized softball fields and one youth field. Each field will include bleachers, dugouts, warm up areas, and lights for night games.

A central two-story building

SEE SOFTBALL COMPLEX, PAGE 2

Chickasaw, Choctaw Nations assert historic tribal rights; seek to protect users

Tribes amend water lawsuit

Attorneys for the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations have amended their complaint in the ongoing federal court water lawsuit that centers on southeast Oklahoma's Sardis Lake. The second amended complaint, filed Jan. 26, underscores that while the tribes do not concede the Oklahoma Water Resources Board's authority to issue permits, the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations do not challenge any current use of water pursuant to existing permits.

Mike Burrage, attorney for the tribes, said the Nations filed their original action in August 2011, to protect tribal rights and water resources.

"The Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations have no interest in and won't be disrupting existing permitted uses of water," Mr. Burrage said. "The lawsuit the Nations filed is against state officials and Oklahoma City, not individuals nor against any individual's water use. Our com-

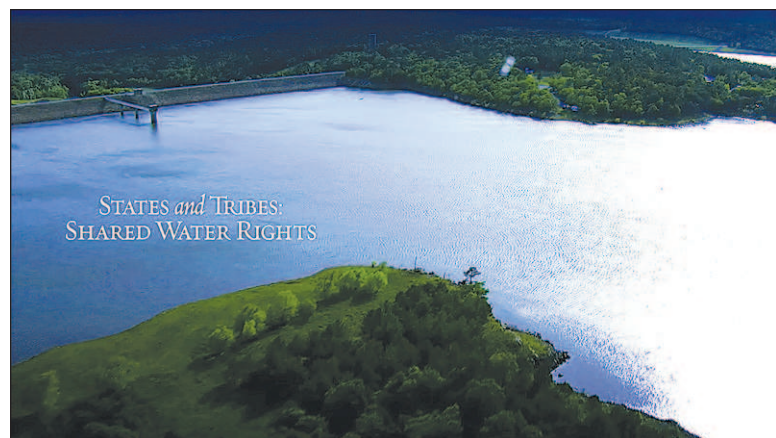
plaint is designed to stop what we believe is an unlawful and unwise rush to export water from southeastern Oklahoma.

"The Nations' suit protects folks in southeast Oklahoma and, frankly, all of Oklahoma. We think a stream adjudication would be an unnecessary waste of resources that would, ultimately, fail to resolve the real issues."

Attorneys for the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations say that a general stream adjudication, which OWRB has stated it will seek, would place a serious burden on thousands of Oklahomans.

In a recent *Cherokee Phoenix* article, University of Oklahoma School of Law Professor Taiawagi Helton stated a general stream adjudication would "wind up exhausting ridiculous sums of resources when cooperation would satisfy our needs."

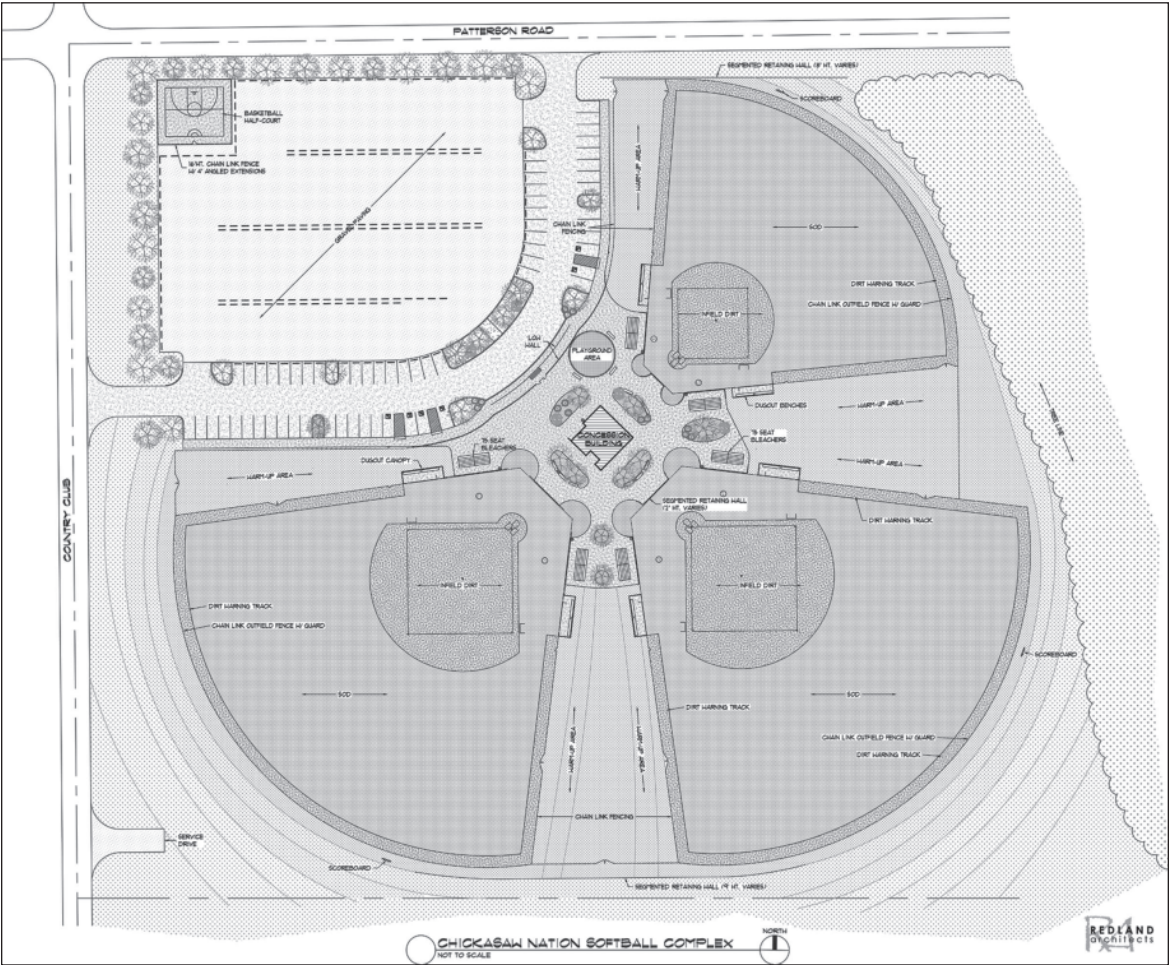
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will include a concession area and restrooms on the ground floor and booths for scorers and announcers on the second floor. Plans also include a half-court outdoor basketball court

and playground area complete with a large play set. The new softball complex, expected to be complete later this year, will complement the Chickasaw Nation’s on-going

community wellness efforts, said Gov. Anoatubby. “It is important to have venues that meet the need for family-friendly activities as part of our comprehensive effort



Gov. Bill Anoatubby led groundbreaking ceremonies for the Ada Softball Complex Jan. 31. About 300 attended the event. Construction of the 12-acre complex at 2000 North Country Club Road in Ada will be complete later this year.

Photo contributed by Richard R. Barron Ada News.

to promote healthy lifestyles and strong families,” said Gov. Anoatubby. The Chickasaw Nation Wellness Centers are located in Ada, Ardmore and Tishomingo. All Wellness Centers are open to the public. Plans are also under way

to update the gymnasium located in the old Chickasaw Nation community center on the Chickasaw Nation headquarters campus on East Arlington in Ada. CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

WATER RIGHTS | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The settlement table, Mr. Burrage said, remained the Nations’ first choice for resolution. “Governor Anoatubby and Chief Pyle remain as committed as ever to finding a workable resolution that’s good for all Oklahomans,” he said. “A stream adjudication would just

be a distraction from what we need to be working on.” For at least a generation, the tribes have sought to establish a dialogue with the state and the OWRB regarding the historic resources of the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations. Those tribal initiatives have not been fruitful.

Water from southeastern Oklahoma has been pumped to the Oklahoma City metropolitan area since at least the 1960s with no agreement including the tribes. CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Career Development Initiative Program (CDI) is now accepting applications

The Career Development Initiative Program (CDI) is now accepting applications. CDI is a six-month transitional program for qualified Chickasaw citizens in the Ada area. The program helps citizens who have a barrier to employment gain full time employment. For additional information or to apply, please contact the CDI Office at (580) 272-5085.

The Chickasaw Times is published by the Chickasaw Times, 230 E. 12th Street, Ada, OK 74820, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821 monthly with two special issues published one in June and one in September. Subscriptions are free.

Send mail to: P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821 Chickasaw Times: (580) 332-2977; Fax: (580) 332-3949 e-mail: Times.Chickasaw@chickasaw.net Chickasaw Headquarters: (580) 436-2603



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Preserving our historic tribal water rights a top priority

The Chickasaw Nation, in partnership with the Choctaw Nation, last year filed a federal lawsuit seeking to protect our rights regarding our water resources within our tribal nation boundaries.

You may have seen the full-page advertisement inserted in most of the state's newspapers last week. In that ad, we attempted to briefly present the real issues in the case.

Additionally, Chief Pyle and I have submitted a Letter to the Editor to most of the state's newspapers. We believe it sums up the issues succinctly. It is reprinted below.

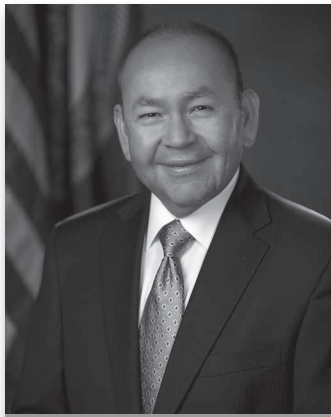
Protection and respect of our historic tribal rights is, of course, of critical importance. Our history dictates we much be very active and engaged when our sovereign rights are under siege.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Letter to the Editor:

Chickasaws and Choctaws share many things with other Oklahomans, including the desire to pave the way for a better future for our children and grandchildren.

We, the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations, are currently working with, among others, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a regional water plan. Having a science-based plan is critical to sustainable management of water resources to support economic development, recreation, household use and to provide for the environmental health of our lakes, rivers



GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor,
the Chickasaw
Nation

We stand united with the farmers, ranchers, business owners and residents who depend upon our shared water resources.

Our goal is to have our voice – and our rights – re-

spected and included in any decision on proposals to remove waters from our homelands. While we are confident we have strong legal claims, we want to make it clear that we have always preferred negotiation rather than litigation.

It is vital that state and tribal leaders work together to ensure a water future that will meet the needs of every Oklahoman in urban and rural areas while still preserving the natural beauty and environmental health of Oklahoma.

We cannot state strongly enough that the tribes have no interest in disrupting any individual's current use of water that is made pursuant to a valid permit. The lawsuit filed against state officials and Oklahoma City was never intended to take action against individuals.

spected and included in any decision on proposals to remove waters from our homelands. While we are confident we have strong legal claims, we want to make it clear that we have always preferred negotiation rather than litigation.

We intend nothing in our legal claim that would require the general stream adjudication proposed by the State of Oklahoma. This type of massive legal process places a serious burden on thousands of Oklahomans, who would have to bear the enormous expense of the state's legal action, potentially lasting for decades, and it would not address or resolve the issues that demand our immediate attention.

State and tribal leaders are fully capable of resolving differences without undergoing the long and tedious process of general stream adjudication that has the potential to have such negative consequences for all the citizens of Oklahoma.

We propose, once again, that state and tribal leaders reach across the table, roll up our sleeves and work together to develop a plan for sustainable management of this most precious resource for the greater good of all Oklahomans.

Together, we can all work toward a sustainable water future for Oklahoma.

Governor Bill Anoatubby, Chickasaw Nation

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Choctaw Nation

Community Emergency Response Team

Chickasaws, community members receive emergency training



From left, Terry Barber, Cynthia Highfield and Teresa Brown practice basic first aid skills during the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training at the Chickasaw Nation Search and Rescue Firehouse Jan. 14.

Last year, Oklahoma experienced tornadoes, fires, floods, earthquakes, ice storms and drought.

Now, thanks to a training co-hosted by Chickasaw Nation Search and Rescue, more area community members are now properly prepared to lend a helping hand during these disasters.

About a dozen Chickasaws and area community members participated in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training conducted Jan. 13-15 at the Chickasaw Nation Search and Rescue Building in Ada.

The hands-on training covered CPR, first aid, search and rescue, and fire safety.

Training instructor Keith Phelps said the training offered an overview of a lot of different subjects and allowed the participants to offer a variety of services to the community.

"It doesn't have to be an emergency," Mr. Phelps said. "It can be services such as installing smoke detectors or handing out water at a marathon."

The training covered basic skills everyone should learn, Mr. Phelps said, especially when living in Oklahoma.

"The federal government and the Department of Homeland Security want everyone to be prepared."

Participants were given a backpack filled with goggles, a

helmet and other safety gear to take home. Training exercises taught participants to use the equipment properly.

"Hopefully this will be a launching pad for additional training that some may want to take," Mr. Phelps said.

Teresa Brown, of Blanchard, Okla., said she signed up for the 20-hour training because she works daily with Chickasaw elders and wants to be prepared to help in any situation.

"Last year I had to do CPR and three of our elders' homes were hit by a tornado," she

said. "This training will just help me prepare me even more for the unexpected."

She said she also planned to share her training with co-workers and elders.

Language Club for kids to age 13 will meet Feb. 11

Chipota Chikashshanompoli, the Chickasaw Language Club, will meet Saturday, Feb. 11.

9 – 11 a.m. at Chickasaw Nation Family Life Center, 229 W. Seabrook Road, Ada.

1 – 3 p.m., Carter Seminary Gym, 2400 Chickasaw Blvd., Ardmore.

The club is open to children, ages three to 13, who are interested in learning more about Chickasaw language and participating in fun monthly activities.

Looking for small business information? SBDC 'Lunch and Learn' set for Feb. 8 in Ada

The Chickasaw Nation Small Business Development Center "Lunch and Learn" meeting is set for noon Wednesday, Feb. 8. The meeting will be at 2020 E. Arlington, Suite 5 in Ada.

All interested Chickasaws are welcome.

The topic of discussion will be feasibility studies with

The CERT training was hosted by The Chickasaw Nation, Citizen Corp and the Department of Homeland Security.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.



Instructor Keith Phelps demonstrates how to use a fire extinguisher during the CERT training conducted Jan. 13-15 at the Chickasaw Nation Search and Rescue Building in Ada.

Mike McKee

The club focuses on the importance of using the Chickasaw language in daily life. Each month the club meets to practice Chickasaw language and embark on an adventure that will incorporate newly introduced Chickasaw words.

To join the club or to learn more, please contact Rachel Wedlow at (580) 272-5540 or Rachel.Wedlow@Chickasaw.net

CONTRIBUTED BY Sharmina Manandhar, tribal media relations.

guest speaker, Bill McCurdy, assistant professor of management at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

To reserve your seat or for more information, contact Brett Joplin at (580) 559-0620 or brett.joplin@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Public Affairs

You're Chickasaw - there's so much to experience!

As Chickasaw citizens, we have available an ever-expanding menu of programs, services, clinics, events and more provided by our tribe.

If you are a newly-registered citizen, the array of choices can be a real eye-opener! Even those of us who serve you in your tribal government must review the many options regularly to keep up to date.

Some of the offerings to Chickasaws are seasonal, such as the many camps offered young Chickasaws in the summer months. The kids can choose to attend one of many camps including Environmental Camp, Shooting Camp, Aviation and Space Camp

and many more, including athletic camps. You will receive information through the Chickasaw Times and other formats soon on the camps, activities and application deadlines.

There are many, many opportunities for Chickasaw adults, as well.

A great way to learn more about your tribe, its culture, language, art and much more, is with the Chickasaw Clemente Humanities Program. This unique and interesting class is offered through East Central University in Ada, and South-eastern Oklahoma State University in Durant. Classes meet once a week during the regular college semester. Check it out - you'll be glad you did!

If you are a Chickasaw small business person, or want to

learn more about how to become one, the Chickasaw Small Business Development Center is here for you! This free service can offer you great information on starting or purchasing a business, operating a small business profitably, and even referring you to financing options. This is a great place to get started in business!

If you are a Chickasaw attending the University of Oklahoma, it's imperative you become involved with the OU Chickasaw Learning Community. Many Chickasaws attend OU, and the Learning Community offers excellent support, direction and camaraderie. This program is a great way to get the most out of your college education, and succeed at the highest levels!

There exists a number of outreach "vehicles" for Chickasaw citizens. You are now receiving the printed version of the Chickasaw Times, and you can also access the Times online anytime at www.chickasawtimes.net

An excellent way to stay in touch with the Chickasaw Nation, and all of Native America, is with KCNP FM radio at 89.5 on the radio dial. If you don't live in the Ada area, you can access the KCNP streaming audio at www.kcnpradio.org

This is a great station with a great selection of music, plus interviews and call-in shows focused on the Chickasaw Nation, and on Indian people throughout the country.

We want you to be in touch, and we want you to take advantage of the many things your tribe has to offer. Welcome to the Chickasaw Nation!



**DAVID
WOERZ**

Chairman,
Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

Assisting our young at-risk Chickasaws an early priority

Chukma! Chin Chukma
The first month of our new year is starting off with a bang! The first resolution of the year is very important to our young people. Resolution #29-014

is an application for a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This grant will provide assistance to at-risk Chickasaw youth or other American Indian youth who have mental health and/or substance abuse issues.

It also provides their families with services and support to improve overall wellness. The increased capacity will allow Youth and Family Services to hire four new people to work with these young people to

provide them and their families a holistic approach that focuses on the connectedness of the body, mind, spirit and culture.

This program will be called Chikashshaat ilokchima (Chickasaw Wellness).

As you well know, our children are our future. Our young people today are our leaders for tomorrow. I am so proud that we (The Tribe) can provide these programs for our children.

I had the opportunity to travel to Claremont, California to attend the Inland Empire/Desert Cities Chickasaw community council this weekend. There were approximately 50 people in attendance, and they made us feel so welcome. It does my heart good that these

people are so proud to be Chickasaw and are so dedicated in wanting to save our culture. They expressed how grateful they are for the services they receive.

I was involved in presenting the first Community Council in just the Chickasaw boundaries. I never dreamed that one day I would be standing in California talking to our Chickasaw people.

I attended the birthday party of a beautiful young lady of 109 years, Mrs. Daisy Blackbird of Oklahoma City. I attended a reception honoring our own Chickasaw princess who is now a State Representative for the Great State of Oklahoma. I attended the ground breaking ceremony for the new softball field that we have waited so long for. I attended ground breaking ceremonies for our 12th Senior Citizens building in Panola District. We have so much to be thankful for and so much more to look forward to!

God Bless and Chipisala'cho (I will see you)



**DEAN
MCMANUS**

Secretary,
Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

January provides a great chance for genealogy!

February already? January was action packed! Carole Hoffman and her mother, Georganna Keirse Baber of Crimora, Virginia stopped by the Achille Senior Center, on their short trip down memory

lane! Georganna was born in Calera and started school in Kemp, Oklahoma and later transferred to Achille when the Kemp School burned. Her family moved to Wichita Falls, Texas when she started fifth grade. Carole, Georganna, and I met with Connie Flood of Colbert, to compare Genealogy notes. All of us are related through the Collins family. The brothers, John and Dan Collins married sisters, Mary and Sallie Potts.

While here, Carole and her mom toured the

Colbert Cemetery, took pictures of the Collins home and viewed the Keirse property. The settlement of Keirse was originally west of Durant, Oklahoma. They continued on to Wichita Falls, Texas to visit Georganna's sister, Jane Pope. Genealogy wise, Georganna's mother descends from Levi Colbert and her father is a descendant of William Colbert.

In mid January, I visited the new Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. This time as a patient-knee arthroscopy! Thank you to the Pre-, Mid- and Post-Op staff for all your efforts on my behalf. What a nice crew of people. Next time you are in the area check out our new hospital. Don't forget to visit

the gift shop. They have some pretty neat items for sale.

A stickball stick making class was offered at the Chokka'Kilimpi' Center in Norman, Oklahoma. Mr. Jason Eyachabbe, Cultural Coordinator for the Center was the instructor. There were about 15 of us in the class. All I can say is, stick making is not for sissies!

Last but not least, the new Panola District Senior Center is now open. The new site is located right off Hwy 69 in Colbert, Oklahoma. An open house was held to meet the staff and showcase the new Senior Center. Stop by for lunch the next time you cruise through the area.

Every month provides an opportunity to meet Chickasaw Citizens and forge new relationships. Until next time,

May the Lord bless you, and keep you; The Lord make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

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**BETH
ALEXANDER**

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

Court Advocates now available in Ardmore, Ada and Purcell

Court Advocate Services are now available in Ardmore, Ada, and Purcell to assist Native Americans with legal problems.

To make an appointment call 1-800-479-1459.

This is a service provided by the tribal court system.

Johnson-O'Malley refined over years to help Indian kids

Hello Everyone,
The 2012 Johnson-O'Malley Conference is scheduled for March 5 and 6. After a long run in Tulsa being hosted by the Cherokees, Creeks and Choctaws, this year's JOM conference will be in Norman and hosted by us, the Chickasaw Nation.
My first memory of hearing about JOM was when Mr. Carter, the Tupelo school principal, came to my third grade classroom and asked my teacher, Mrs. Chris, "How many Indian kids do you have in your class?" She wasn't sure.
So, Mr. Carter said, "Raise your hand if you are Indian."
Some of us raised our hands.
Mr. Carter then said, "Tell me your name and what tribe you belong to."



KATIE CASE

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Some of the kids didn't know. I knew I was Chickasaw. Grandpa had lined me out on that from day one.
Those of us who could tell him our tribe were lead to his office where we were given two #2 yellow pencils and a small package of paper, compliments of the JOM program.
Years later, while in college, I worked as a teacher's assistant through the JOM program. That JOM-funded job helped me pay for my college degree.
The Johnson-O'Malley Act was passed in 1934 to ensure that Indian children received the educational opportunities that would not otherwise be provided. In the beginning, JOM funds provided operational support. Schools were able to use the funds for general school operational expenses like buildings, busses and school equipment.

Today, in keeping with its mission to address the unique cultural needs of American Indian students through a supplemental program of services planned, developed and approved by the Local Indian Education Committee, JOM provides tutoring, school supplies, incentives, field trips and cultural activities to our Native American children.
The transition from an operational support program to a supplemental program ensured that JOM funds would be spent on Indian students specifically, rather than on busses and buildings.
In the past, JOM funds were handed down from the federal government to the school system. Today, however, the tribes receive the JOM funds from the federal government and then disperse the funds to the public schools within the boundaries of their respective Nations based on the number of Native American students attending each school.
The decisions on how the funds are spent are ultimately made by each school's parent committee, according to their developed plan for providing programs to meet the unique and specialized educational needs of their Indian students.
Having the JOM funds flow through the tribes, being dispersed by the tribes and spent with the direction of the parental committees is a procedural improvement in that it ensured that the funds benefit Indian students specifically.
The JOM program is so important. It pays for real, tangible, immediate needs like school supplies, senior pictures, senior announcements, graduation caps and gowns, and things for which a tight budget may not allow.
The JOM is special to me because I have benefited from it, personally.
School, at all levels, is expensive. The JOM program helps our children help themselves.
People First,
Katie

There are now many ways to begin learning our language!

Chukma, Hello Everyone,
It is always my greatest pleasure to get to meet and visit with our people. I'm always excited to hear that we have a new Community Council forming because I know it means you want to be an active member of the tribe, so you can learn more about the culture and language, as well as the opportunities available for you and your family. Never before have we had more opportunities for our people to be involved!
As I travel to other states, the one thing I hear most often is that people want to know how they can learn the language. We have many ways to learn the Chickasaw language, from the Chickasaw Language Ap for iPhones, to the word of the day at our website, www.chickasaw.net. There are also workbooks, dictionaries, and CD's available to order. We may have fewer than 50 fluent speakers at this time, so please help preserve our language by learning what you can and passing it on to your children and grandchildren.



NANCY ELLIOTT

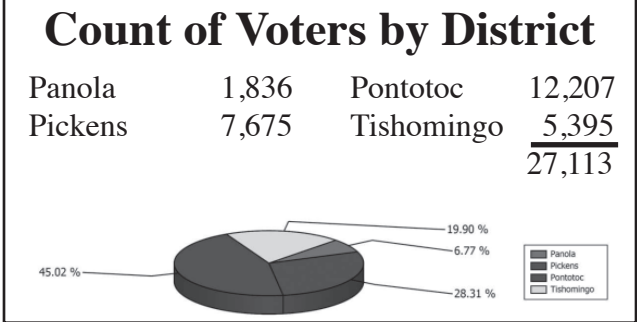
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Thank you so much to the Inland Empire/Desert Cities Council in Southern California for the warm hospitality shown to us on our recent visit. Thanks to Bill Chandler, Chairman, for keeping the group together. Also, I would like to give a special thanks to Ted Pannell and his wife Sylvia, for his service to our country and for writing his wonderful book entitled, *Vietnam Stories, Dreams to Nightmares*. It is a very inspiring story and a great testament to his faith in God. Thank you to all our Chickasaw veterans and their families for your service to our great country and being willing to sacrifice your lives for the freedoms that we all enjoy. Please let me know if I can help you in any way.
Chipisala'cho anowa , (I will see you again)
Nancy
(580) 399-4374
Nancy.elliott@Chickasaw.net

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Happy 109th to original enrollee Daisy Blackbird!

Greetings from Mary Jo Green, Pontotoc District seat #5. We have been blessed with good weather, for January in Oklahoma the sun has shined most days. We have had some cold but more mild days than usual this time of year. The businesses are doing well...
We had only one resolution on the Agenda this month, a grant application for funds to help troubled youth in their early teen years. That is a hard time for young people from broken homes especially. Our tribe has so many programs to help with education. Senior citizens, we need to look for those young people where ever they live, who have the greatest need, and what those needs are. I am so thankful for the progress we are making in supplying that need.

We recently attended the Connerville Community Council, enjoyed seeing the people and visiting and sharing a meal with them. They always have some good food and fellowship.
Dean McManus, Nancy Elliott, and I visited Daisy Blackbird in Oklahoma City on January 18. We helped with the celebration of her 109th birthday. Daisy was born January 18, 1903 in Tupelo, Oklahoma. She attended school at Byrds Prairie and graduated from Tupelo High School. She then moved to Kansas City where she went to Kansas City University, receiving a teacher's certificate. She returned to Oklahoma and taught school in Coalgate for a while. She moved to Oklahoma City where she went to work at the State Capitol for the Supreme Court judges, and there she met and married her husband, Chief Justice William H. Blackbird. She has been a resident of Oklahoma City for

over fifty years and is a member of the First Christian Church on Walker Street. She is the oldest living original enrollee we have found on the Dawes Commission rolls. Many friends and relatives visited her on her birthday; she and her sister Wanda Montgomery, who is ninety, have lived at their current home for over three years. What a pleasure to meet these lovely ladies and sing happy birthday to Daisy. We enjoyed seeing the beautiful replica of the Mike Larson portrait of Daisy. The three Legislators presented gifts from each of them to Daisy and her sister Wanda.

That's all the news I have this month, until next month May God bless the Chickasaw people. You may contact me by telephone or e-mail. marygreen@chickasaw.net or (580) 332-2394 or (580) 310-4563.



Daisy Blackbird, seated, with, from left, Dean McManus, Mary Jo Green and Nancy Elliott.

New year, great weather - a perfect time for fitness!

We're off to a very mild winter, with the anticipation of what the rest of the winter might bring. These mild days are perfect for enjoying time outside with your family. Exercising and playing together is so important, whether inside or outside. It shows your children you are committed to health and wellness and sets a good example for them. Not to mention the quality time you spend together as a family. Have a tea party with your daughter, throw the ball with your son or take your dog for a walk. There are several ways you can get creative with indoor activities if it's too cold outside.

The Chickasaw Nation is committed to promoting health and wellness for our families. Take advantage of the many activities offered for youth and families. It's not too early to start thinking about the many sports and educational camps the Nation has to offer. Not to mention the language classes you can take together. Visit the website at www.chickasaw.net to keep up with what camps and classes will be available in the coming months.

Exercise and recreation is not just for our younger ones. We are fortunate to have a great program in place for our elders, as well, through the many Senior Citizens Sites. The site managers keep our elders busy with dancing, swimming,

field trips and many more activities. I once had the pleasure of doing the Chicken Dance with a group at the Ardmore Senior Site. What fun we had!

Along the lines of health, please take advantage of the many drop-off locations for unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications. The Chickasaw Nation Lighthouse Police Department is collecting them at 22 locations throughout our area. The Prescription Take Back Program is a three-year service that is possible through the Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Grant. If you have medications you are no longer using, drop it off at one of the locations. This program will help prevent pollution to our streams and rivers from medications that might have been poured down the drain or flushed down the toilet. Visit the Chickasaw Nation's website for drop-off locations.

Lord, your discipline is good, for it leads to life and health. You restore my health and allow me to live! ~Isaiah 38:16

Shana Tate Hammond
Pickens District, Seat 4



Escape..

Ray's Travel
Chickasaw Citizen
(580) 332-7462

Arts, Language presentations a hit with community councils

Chokma,
I hope all is well with you and your family.
Since I missed last month's article, I wanted to let everyone know my resolutions for 2012. Each year I always want to be open and responsive to what God has planned for my life. I also want to focus on improving my health by getting proper nutrition and faithfully exercising. I hope you are off to a great start with your resolutions. I am very excited about all the wonderful things happening in the Chickasaw Nation this year and wish you and your family the best.

I recently had the opportunity to attend community council meetings in Wichita, KS and Claremont, CA. Those in attendance in California were informed of events happening in the Chickasaw Nation Arts and Humanities Division by Special Projects Director Frieda Clark. JoAnn Ellis presented a wonderful Chickasaw language program with lots of group participation and great information. Chokma'shki (Thank you), JoAnn and Frieda, for making the meeting informative and fun. I enjoyed seeing everyone in Kansas and California and look forward to visiting with you all again very soon.

In session, the Legislature approved a resolution for a grant application to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Native Americans for a Social and Economic Development Strategies. If granted, funds will be used to expand the capacity to serve "at-risk" rural Chickasaw or other Native American youth with mental health and/or substance abuse issues. "Chikashshaat ilokchina" (Chickasaw wellness) will focus on the connectedness of the body, mind, spirit and culture, to help bring healing in a holistic way to the affected youth and their family.

I hope you have a very happy Valentine's Day and get to spend it with the one you love. I would recommend Bedré chocolates for your sweetheart; you can't go wrong with either the pecan caramel sensations or the white fudge crisps!

I would love to hear from you. Please contact me with your concerns, needs or questions. I am here to help.

May God bless you and your family.
Toby Perkins, Legislator Pontotoc District, Seat 1
(580) 399-2606 toby.perkins@chickasaw.net



TOBY PERKINS

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

This month on Connections

Connections is a weekly radio program on KCNP that covers a variety of topics and issues.

Each week, special guests are invited to discuss their areas of experience and expertise with host Brian Brashier.

Connections airs live on KCNP at 11 a.m. CST each Wednesday on 89.5 FM or streaming online at www.kcnpradio.org.

This month on Connections:

"What to Expect When You're Expecting" - February 1

Expecting a baby? Have questions? You won't want to miss Connections this week. We'll have a doctor in the studio to talk about prenatal care and what to do when getting ready to have a baby.

"February Blues" - February 8

Long winter nights, the stress of work and family and even Valentine's Day can make February, the shortest month of the year, seem like the longest. A representative from the Chickasaw Nation Office of Strong Family Development will talk us through how to best handle the anxieties caused by this time of year.

"The Stars at Night" - February 15

A local astronomer talks about how to get started as an amateur sky watcher.

"Check Out the Library" - February 22

We'll visit with a librarian from the Ada public library. There's more to do there than just check out books.

"The Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts Program" - February 29

Find out more about the Chickasaw Nation martial arts program. Learn how this unique program combines martial arts training with Chickasaw language lessons.

"Get On Your Feet" - March 7

When is the right time to visit a podiatry clinic? We'll get the answers this week when we have a local podiatrist as our guest to talk about proper foot care.

Listeners are invited to call the show's toll-free line at 1-TLK-895-KCNP (1-855-895-5267) to talk to each week's guest.

Questions and comments for guests can also be emailed to feedback@kcnpradio.org.

This month on CNTV

- The Chickasaw Nation Lighthouse Police Department is collecting unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications at 22 locations throughout the Chickasaw Nation.

- Bedré Fine Chocolate is getting ready to release a new line of gourmet treats this spring. We'll get a first look at the new chocolates in the February episode of CNTV.

- This month's special feature is about Trula Churchill, a Chickasaw citizen who is a champion rodeo barrel racer. Find out more about her rise to the top ranks of the rodeo circuit on this month's CNTV.and much more! New episodes are available on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Visit www.chickasaw.tv and click on the News channel to watch CNTV.

OILS offers free will clinics

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc. (OILS) will be conducting free wills preparation clinics in Ada, Sulphur and Duncan.

The first clinic will be Wednesday, Feb. 15 at the Chickasaw Senior Center, 1005 Chamber Loop in Ada.

The Sulphur Clinic is set for Friday, Feb. 24 at the Chickasaw Senior Center, 401 Oklahoma. The Duncan clinic will be Wednesday, March 21 at the Chickasaw Senior Center, 1909 W. Plato.

Please call ahead to register at (800) 658-1497 or (580) 272-0038.

For additional information regarding other legal services, call OILS at the 800 number above.

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Chickasaw Citizen

Vision: More Than Seeing

BY CHARLES BLACKWELL | CHICKASAW NATION AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.



A while ago, I had an enjoyable breakfast accompanied by a most pleasant and stimulating conversation with an old Chickasaw friend of more than 50 years. We talked about how life was for Chickasaws when we were boys back in the mid-fifties and about how things have changed, especially in the last two decades.

As grandfathers, we each affirmed that we wanted the new generation of Chickasaws to share the pride and sense of service to our People which was impressed on us by our elders. Now that I am beginning to accept the fact that I am a bit of an elder myself, I have many things I want to share with you.

Our conversation that morning inspired me to think even more about my role and responsibility, not only as a grandpapa, but also as a teacher-lawyer-Ambassador for all of you born during the last 20 years. In the spirit of gener-

osity and sharing, it is our responsibility as Chickasaws to proudly give back to our People in the special ways which only each of us can do. It is our responsibility to know the modern as well as the ancient history of our People. It is our responsibility to be comfortable with contemporary and classical Chickasaw tradition and culture. It is our responsibility to have vision.

Vision is a combination of wisdom, strength, courage, and generosity. Vision provides insight into the past so you may define your present; vision gives you inspiration on what you want to do with your future. Your vision can bring you happiness, motivation, and self-determination for doing

the best with and for yourself, your family and your Chickasaw people.

As for me, my vision of self and service was instilled in me by three generations of strong brown hands and loving hearts. They were each and all purveyors of love by giving me strength, courage and wisdom endowed with generosity. As I grew up, I spent school years in Oklahoma. Summers, beginning in about 1949, found me living with my grandparents in South Dakota where they were teaching in government

Indian schools on the Lower Brule and Oglala Sioux reservations, where I learned to speak Lakota and was honored with a traditional Sioux naming ceremony. I also spent four years

teaching high school English at Window Rock High School on the Navajo reservation in Arizona and 20 years studying and living in Albuquerque among the Pueblo people there. My pride and appreciation for my Chickasaw heritage enabled me to attentively observe and appreciate these other tribal cultures. This extended, as well, to tribes in Montana, Southern California, Mississippi and the State of Washington. Experiencing the other tribal cultures inspired even more my vision of service to my own

People.

That breakfast conversation and present times have motivated me to commit to writing a series of articles to share with you over the coming months, addressing vision and purpose. Our spiritual, mental, social and physical selves can and must reflect individually our Chickasaw strength, courage, wisdom and generosity. While I will focus primarily on you young people, hopefully you old and older people will read and reflect on where we've been, where we are and where we are going.

There are so many good things we can share with each other as we come to see our vision. We will begin with courage.

So until next time, in this February month of heart messages, and from my heart here on Capitol Hill, in Washington, D.C., I wish you much warmth and love.

Charles W. Blackwell

Seven earn college degrees, certificate

Non-traditional School to Work students making great strides

Veronica Clement knows a thing or two about working with children.

The Chickasaw Nation School to Work student spent the last two and one-half years working at the Chickasaw Nation Head Start in Ardmore, Okla., and the Chickasaw Children's Village in Kingston, Okla.

"The Head Start gave me an opportunity to work with children in a classroom setting for the first time," she said. "Then, I moved over to the Children's Village and that gave me a whole new experience with a different set of children.

"Both of my job training loca-

tions gave me the experience I need to feel more prepared and confident in my own classroom someday."

The Madill, Okla., resident recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant.

The School to Work program helps eligible traditional and non-traditional Chickasaw students earn their education while maintaining employment through an on-the-job training.

Students attend class and work in internship programs, typically in an area associated

with their field of study. Students are considered employees and receive a paycheck and benefits for their efforts.

Mrs. Clement is one of several School to Work students who are on their career paths after completing coursework in area schools and colleges in the last few months.

Treva Perry, of Ada, Okla., received her undergraduate degree in human services counseling from East Central University in Ada.

She said her on-the-job training at the Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program in Ada allowed her to

gather "hands on" experience in her field. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in rehabilitation at ECU.

Also graduating from ECU with an undergraduate degree were School to Work participants:

Holly Flowers, of Ada, human services counseling.

Sara A. Jones, of Kingston, business administration.

Obtaining an undergraduate degree from the University of Oklahoma in Norman were:

Deidre Sheffield Clark, of Celina, Texas, international studies.

Sherrie Frick, of Norman,

multidisciplinary studies in psychology, sociology and communication.

Michael Apala, of Ardmore, graduated from the Southern Oklahoma Technology Center with a HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) certificate.

For more information about the School to Work program, please contact Valerie Nix at (580) 559-0815 in Ada or Don Mose at (580) 222-2839 in Ardmore.

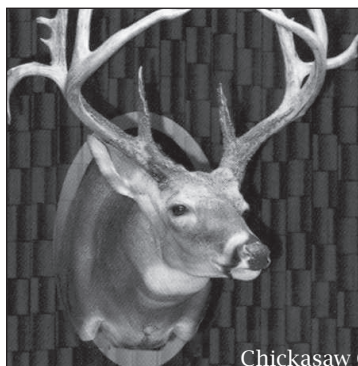
CONTRIBUTED BY Sharmina Manandhar, tribal media relations.

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Fundamentals plus respect, discipline

42 Chickasaw girls excel at Winter Softball Camp



Coach Eric Iverson helps Sunzie Harrison with her batting stance and swing at Chickasaw Nation Winter Softball Camp, conducted in Ardmore, Okla., Dec. 21-22.

Mike McKee

ARDMORE, Okla. – Lessons on respect, hard work and discipline were interspersed with softball fundamentals during the annual Chickasaw Nation Winter Softball Camp, Dec. 21-22 at Ardmore High School's indoor baseball facility.

Forty-two young Chickasaw ladies dedicated two days of their holiday break to the

intense camp. A total of 16 coaches and collegiate players associated with the Day of Champions organization led the event.

Hard work was emphasized during the camp, with much of the morning focused on drills and the afternoon focused on hitting, catching and fielding, and other fundamentals. Run-

ning - not walking - from station to station was required by the coaches.

Ken Heupel, director of Day of Champions, said the camp focused on the four principles of leadership: discipline, respect, trust and hard work.

Eric Iverson, head softball coach at Northeastern (OK) A&M, said the girls learned not only softball skills, but also skills vital to success off the softball diamond.

"A lot of these players will not go on to college sports, but we teach the success principals they can apply to everyday life," he said.

Lessons on goal setting and having the skills and drive necessary to reach those goals were also provided.

"We help these students understand that they can realize their dreams," he said. "It doesn't matter where you are from. If you work hard and surround yourself with good people, you can achieve anything."

"This camp is all about helping kids. That's the number one reason we are here."

Coaches gave the players several useful tips and techniques to improve their games.

Ten-year-old Kelli Baker, of Kingston, Okla., learned how to get to the bases faster.

"I learned to stay low on the bases," said the Chickasaw first baseman.

Ten-year-old Zoe Factor, of Tishomingo, Okla., learned how respect and discipline were intertwined.

"You earn respect by discipline," she said. "You have to be disciplined to get respect."

Players ranged from 10-18 years old and traveled from all over Oklahoma and Texas to attend the camp.

Kylee Sloan, of Roanoke, Texas, woke up at dawn to travel to get to the Ardmore camp.

"Because I love softball and I want to get better," said the 13-year-old.

The camp helps her work harder, she said, and gives her encouragement to keep playing hard.

"It reminds me it's important to always finish and never give up."

Along with Coach Iverson, 15 current and former collegiate coaches and players assisted with the camp, including former Texas A&M player Erin Workman, former OU player Jadyn Smith, current OCU play-

er Kasie Quintero, Tulsa Union Head Baseball Coach Shawn Newkirk, NEO players Courtney Clark and Nicole Workman, Tulsa player Cassidy Brown, Coweta (OK) High School Head Coach Rodney Bowen, former NEO player Allysa Poole and NEO coaches Lauren Iverson and Ryan Dodson, among others.

An autograph session closed the camp.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.



Jessica Kelley, of Healdton, Okla., runs the bases during Chickasaw Nation Winter Softball Camp, conducted Dec. 21-22 in Ardmore, Okla. More than 40 young Chickasaw ladies attended the camp.

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70 boys learn baseball in Ardmore

MLB's Caufield, college coaches hit the diamond with campers

Oklahoma City University Baseball Coach Denney Crabaugh, left, and Chuckie Caufield, a Major League Baseball player from Ada, demonstrates a throwing technique at Chickasaw Nation Baseball Clinic, conducted last month.

Mike McKee

ARDMORE, Okla. - Professional baseball player Chuckie Caufield comes home each year to southern Oklahoma to help at Chickasaw Nation Winter Baseball Clinic. He sees himself, he said, in many of the young Chickasaw students he coaches.

Caufield, an Ada, Okla., native helped coach and mentor more than 70 baseball players, ages 10-18 at the 2011 edition of the clinic, Dec. 19-20 at Ardmore (OK) High School's indoor baseball facility.

Caufield, who plays in the Milwaukee Brewers system, said as a youngster he wasn't able to attend many camps and clinics. As a result, he didn't learn all he could about baseball at a young age.

"There are things (about baseball) I am still learning today in the pros," he said. "If I can help someone at a young age understand some things and become a better ball player and help them achieve their goals, then that's what I am going to do."

The two-day intense clinic focused on the fundamentals of baseball such as pitching, hitting and fielding.

Besides baseball fundamen-

tals, life skills such as goal setting, dedication, hard work and self-discipline were stressed by the 13 coaches.

Cole Hammond, of Ardmore, learned the batting technique of "squashing the bug."

"I also learned that hard work in anything is important," said the nine-year-old Chickasaw boy.

Jackson LaFountain, a 10-year-old Chickasaw from Sulphur, Okla., said he played baseball for the first time this past year.

Hitting is his favorite part of the sport.

Both players said they appreciated learning new tips from the coaches.

Caufield, who has been working with the Chickasaw Nation Baseball Clinic since 2005, said he identified with many of the young baseball players. The players with "raw talent" and the ones with the ambition to "do it right" every time were most impressive.

He hopes to inspire young players to set their goals high and believe they can achieve anything.

Caufield, who is of Chickasaw descent, has been driven to reach his goal partly because



Zane Walck, Colby Simon and Kolton McGaha at Chickasaw Nation Baseball Camp.

a guest speaker at Ada Junior High's Career Day years ago told him being a professional ball player was a long shot.

"She was using an example of how few can actually make it as a professional athlete," Caufield said. "I took it as an insult and it has been something that has driven me my whole life, to prove someone wrong."

Caufield said working with young people was rewarding. He volunteers during his off-time with a baseball program Little Rock, Ark., area high school.

"That's how I live my life in general," he said. "If I give back and help someone or be a positive role model, then I am fulfilled."

Coaches from several area

high schools and colleges and former professional baseball players joined Caufield at the tribal baseball clinic.

Oklahoma City University veteran baseball coach Denney Crabaugh led that clinic.

Crabaugh, a member of the NAIA Hall of Fame and the Oklahoma Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, said coaching Chickasaw players was rewarding.



Warren Birdshead, of Ada, practices his fielding at Chickasaw Nation Winter Baseball Camp, conducted Dec. 19-20 in Ardmore.

The large coach to camper ratio gave each player more personal attention and practice.

Coaches at baseball camp included Zack Birth, Ead Simon, Brad Miller, Keanon Simon, Shane Coker, Micha Noland, Zack Crabtree, Danny Baldrige, Cody Crabaugh, Chance Linville, Drew Miller and Will Trisciani.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

December 2011 Outstanding Achievement Award recipient

Taylor Dunnigan

Taylor, son of Steve and Karen Dunnigan, of Ada, Okla., is a December 2011 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award for Athletics.



Taylor Dunnigan

Taylor is a senior at Latta High School and was nominated by boy's baseball coach, Eddie Collins.

"Taylor has had a tremendous fall season," said Coach Collins. "He has been one of our mainstays on the mound for more than two years and has helped lead us to the Class A state tournament."

Taylor enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time with his friends and family.

"My future plans include attending a college where I can continue to play baseball," said Taylor.

CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Public Affairs



Richard Blue, Ada, practices his batting stance at Chickasaw Nation Winter Baseball Clinic.

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Road to Work saves time, dollars

Tribal transportation program a great buy for regular riders

SULPHUR, Okla. - A vital Chickasaw Nation transportation program is the key to helping several tribal citizens share our culture with the world.

More than a dozen Chickasaw Cultural Center employees rely on the Road to Work shuttle to get to the Sulphur campus daily.

For Cultural Center theatre assistant Fran Parchcorn, who lives in Ada, the shuttle is a "life saver."

"Road to Work played a ma-

jor role in deciding to come to work here," said Mrs. Parchcorn, a Chickasaw citizen.

Mrs. Parchcorn and her daughter, Courtney, have been working at the Cultural Center since it opened in mid-2010.

Since then, the pair has logged thousands of miles commuting on the Road to Work Shuttle.

"If I would have been driving my car every day I would have already needed to replace it," Mrs. Parchcorn said. "The

shuttle saves on gas and vehicle wear and tear."

Round trip, Chickasaw citizens pay \$2 to ride the 64-mile route.

As with many things in life, there is a compromise needed to ride the shuttle.

Riders must meet the shuttle at 7 a.m. in Ada each day.

"It's a minor adjustment in your life, but it pays off in the long run, believe me," said Mrs. Parchcorn.

"We wouldn't be here without

the Chickasaw Nation Transportation Department."

Chickasaw Nation Road to Work was launched in June 2008.

The program was implemented when fuel hovered around \$4 per gallon.

Shuttle busses run Monday through Friday from Ada. The east route has stops in Allen, Tupelo, Stonewall and the south route takes riders to the Cultural Center in Sulphur.

Buses currently begin picking up riders at 5 p.m. each day for the trip home after work.

Road to Work is open to any-

one. Riders are required to complete client information forms and call the Road to Work office between 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. to reserve a seat for the following day.

Riders with a Chickasaw citizenship card or CDIB ride for \$1, all others ride for \$2.

For more information about Road to Work, or to reserve a seat, call (800) 492-2115. Or visit the Road to Work office at 1001 North Country Club Road in Ada, Okla.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

Glenn Miller Orchestra, Crossover guests at McSwain Theatre in February

ADA, Okla. - Two big shows are planned at the historic McSwain Theatre in February.

Jae L. Stilwell and Crossover will entertain at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18 and the world-famous Glenn Miller Orchestra is coming to the McSwain Theatre at 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 25.

Crossover, the McSwain house band, will be joined by several talented area entertainers and present a show packed with crowd-pleasing hits.

The show will feature a wide range of both country and classic hits from yesterday and today and entertaining numbers performed by talented artists.

Always a family favorite, Jae L. Stilwell and Crossover shows encourage plenty of audience participation and interaction.

The band routinely takes requests and suggestions from the audience.

Jae L. Stilwell has been a popular McSwain mainstay for almost two decades. She will be joined by Crossover band members Jody Teeter, Debbie Allen, Ronnie Magar, Wayne Morton, Greg Griffin, Gary Bryan, Mike Price and Tara Scott.

The members of Crossover have decades of combined experience performing at numerous venues and with artists who ran the gamut of the musical spectrum.

The Glenn Miller Orchestra is one of the most popular groups of the "Big Band Era."

With its unique jazz sound, the Glenn Miller Orchestra is considered to be one of the

greatest bands of all time. The band is known for songs such as "Moonlight Serenade" and "Chattanooga Choo Choo."

The present Glenn Miller Orchestra was formed in 1956 with the successful motion picture, "The Glenn Miller Story." The band plays an average of 300 shows a year.

For ticket information for either show, contact the McSwain office at (580) 332-8108 or online at www.mcswaintheatre.com

The McSwain Theatre, owned and operated by the Chickasaw Nation, is located at 130 W. Main in Ada.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

Celebrate Valentine Day Feb. 11 with special events at the Chickasaw Cultural Center

SULPHUR, Okla. - Celebrate your valentine at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, Saturday, February 11.

A day filled with poetry, a flute performance, card making and a heart-warming family movie are just a few activities planned to celebrate the day.

A Valentine Day card workshop for children 12 and under will be conducted from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Chickasaw Dance Troupe will demonstrate a traditional dance at 11 a.m., and a Native Flute performance will be conducted at 1 p.m.

The classic film "Beauty and the Beast," will be screened at 1 p.m.

Chickasaw author Dr. Phil Morgan will present "A Glimpse of Native Creativity" at 2 p.m. Dr. Morgan will share his published works, a poetry recital, an acoustical music performance, storytelling, author readings and a book signing during this event.

A Chickasaw Cultural class is also set for 3 p.m.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Cultural Center at 580-622-7103 or visit www.chickasawculturalcenter.com The Chickasaw Cultural Center is located at 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Road in Sulphur.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

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Chickasaw aviator John Herrington receives Native Son Award from Chamber



Cmdr. John Herrington with his mother Joyce, left, and his wife Margo during the South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet. Cmdr. Herrington received the SOKC Chamber's Native Son Award on Jan. 26

OKLAHOMA CITY - Chickasaw aviator and astronaut Commander John Herrington, USN (retired) was honored with the Native Son Award during the annual South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

The event was conducted Jan. 26 at the Cox Convention Cen-

ter in Oklahoma City.

The Native Son Award is presented annually to a native Oklahoman who has achieved at an exceptional level in his or her life's work. Former Native Son Award winners include screenwriter Grey Frederickson, popular singer B.J. Thomas, and song writer Jimmy

Webb.

The award was presented to Cmdr. Herrington by Women of the South member Mary Blankenship Pointer.

Mrs. Pointer summarized Cmdr. Herrington's career as a Naval aviator and later NASA astronaut. Cmdr. Herrington's career had an inauspicious start, Mrs. Pointer said, when he went to college and under-achieved.

Believing he wasn't cut out for college, Mrs. Pointer said, Cmdr. Herrington took a job as a rock climber with a survey crew in Colorado. He enjoyed the rock climbing, she said, and also began to see the practical application for mathematics in everyday life.

"The light was coming on for him," Mrs. Pointer said.

From that point forward, Cmdr. Herrington found a passion for mathematics, science - and discipline.

Accepting the award, Cmdr. Herrington had special thanks

for his mother, Joyce Herrington, who was in attendance.

"When I was in school, times were tight and she could tell when I was broke," he said. "Then an envelope would show up in the mail with five dollars in it, with a note of encouragement from my mom."

Cmdr. Herrington also thanked his wife, Margo, who attended the event.

He also expressed thanks to Gov. Bill Anoatubby for the Governor's support of Cmdr. Herrington's efforts to promote math and engineering study among young people.

The two most important things that happened to him during his formative years, Cmdr. Herrington said, were his chance meetings with men who would direct him to achieve.

The first was a supervisor on the Colorado survey crew. The man "saw something in me," Cmdr. Herrington said, and

encouraged him to go back to college and focus on his mathematics studies, which he did.

The second was a retired U.S. Navy Captain who Cmdr. Herrington tutored in calculus while in college.

"I taught him calculus, and he told me I should join the Navy," Cmdr. Herrington said.

Following over 20 years of flying Naval aircraft, Cmdr. Herrington was selected for the NASA program. He "made the grade" and was a crew member on the Space Shuttle Endeavor during its 2002 flight to repair the International Space Station.

Since his retirement, Cmdr. Herrington has dedicated himself to the promotion of mathematics and engineering study among young people, particularly young Indian people.

"Gov. Anoatubby has been tremendously supportive of this effort," Cmdr. Herrington said. "Without his help, we wouldn't be getting the young people involved that we are."

FY2012 first quarter driven by strong business results

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and the tribe's BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Chickasaw Enterprises. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of the tribal operation, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Businesses revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes, sales revenue at convenience, travel plazas and tobacco stores, rent and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, Chickasaw Times and governor's and lt. governor's offices. Expenditure for education includes education scholarship as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include senior citizens

sites, eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending December 31, 2011

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled \$22.9 million for the month and \$44.9 million year-to-date. Expenditures were \$9.9 million for the month and \$24.5 year-to-date.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming prizes through December totaled \$260.3 million. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was \$66.1 million year-to-date. After transfers to the Tribal Government for capital projects and tribal program operations the net income was \$23.0 million year-to-date. The net income includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At December 31, 2011, the tribal government funds had \$160.1 million in cash and investments. Of this amount,

\$19.3 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had \$187.6 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of December 31, 2011, tribal operations, excluding federal program funding, had net assets of \$1.318 billion compared to \$1.269 billion at September 30, 2011 or an increase of \$49 million.

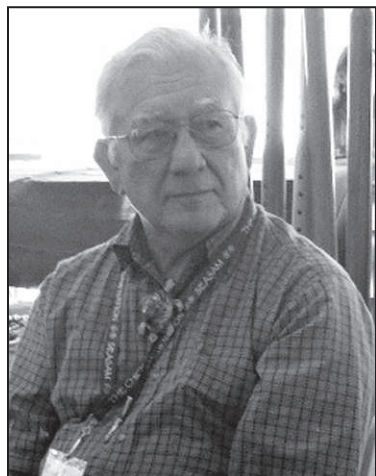
Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Three Months Ended December 31, 2011

	Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues	1,763,394	260,313,607	262,077,001
Transfers from businesses to tribal government	43,169,815	(43,169,815)	-
Total funds available	44,933,209	217,143,792	262,077,001
Expenditures			
General government	2,969,597		2,969,597
Legislature	592,794		592,794
Judiciary	228,173		228,173
Education	3,470,967		3,470,967
Heritage Preservation	3,575,875		3,575,875
Health	5,668,865		5,668,865
Youth and Family Services	2,354,584		2,354,584
Nutrition Programs	1,350,112		1,350,112
Regulatory	2,063,794		2,063,794
Assistance Programs	2,283,998		2,283,998
Gaming expense		142,693,767	142,693,767
Other businesses' expense		51,446,117	51,446,117
Total expenditures	24,558,760	194,139,884	218,698,644
Increase in net assets	20,374,449	23,003,908	43,378,357
Beginning net assets	594,455,238	680,428,193	1,274,883,431
Ending net assets	614,829,687	703,432,101	1,318,261,788

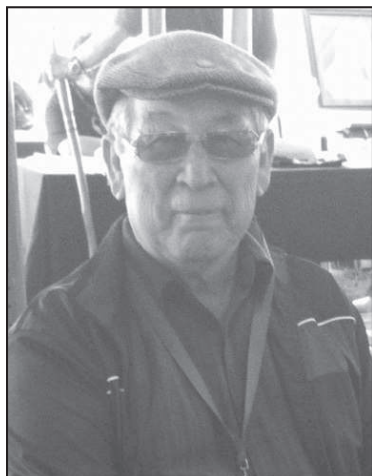
Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Net Assets
December 31, 2011

	Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	160,195,983	187,600,429	347,796,412
Receivables	37,977,315	64,474,391	102,451,706
Inventory	234,492	6,451,618	6,686,110
Prepaid expenses		15,713,232	15,713,232
Other Assets		2,480,825	2,480,825
Fixed assets	418,156,626	566,622,862	984,779,488
Less payables	(1,734,729)	(139,911,257)	(141,645,986)
Net Assets	614,829,687	703,432,101	1,318,261,788

Chickasaw brothers draw on history, combine for 'fancy flute making'



Jack Pettigrew



Wendell Pettigrew

Wendell and Jack Pettigrew love working with each other.

As kids, the brothers did everything from sculptures and flute making to bronze and silverwork.

However, their respective careers took them to different places during adulthood. Wendell moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in music. Jack went to Dallas.

The pair returned to Oklahoma in 1980s and have been creating artwork together ever since.

"Music was good," Wendell, 71, said. "I love it still but we like it where we can work together."

The brothers call their latest endeavor "fancy flute making." Wendell and Jack create custom-designed flutes with graphics, pictures and silverwork.

"It's something different that we have always enjoyed doing," Jack, 69, said. "We used to make flutes as kids."

Jack said it all started two years ago when his son brought back a flute from a trip to Arizona.

"We got to looking at the

flute and thought, 'Yeah we made these as kids'," Jack said. "So we took it apart, looked at it and started making our own."

The brothers see flute making as an opportunity to share their Chickasaw culture and heritage.

"I am Chickasaw, so everything I do is Chickasaw design," Jack said.

He also tries to construct his flutes in a traditional way, using no power tools.

"There's nothing wrong with making the flutes however you want to make them," Jack said. "It's just how you feel as a flute maker."

"I would rather give you something more traditional than giving you something more commercial."

The Pettigrew brothers have participated in numerous arts and craft shows around the country including the Chickasaw Nation Southeastern Art Show and Market.

Hosted by the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities, the art show offers an annual opportunity for adult and youth artists from any Southeastern and Woodland tribe to showcase and market their artworks.

Last year, Jack won the first place in the flute category. He was also awarded the "Best of Show."

The Pettigrew brothers live in Ada, Okla.

CONTRIBUTED BY Sharmina Manandhar, tribal media relations.

Longtime employee, Tishomingo native to head Area Office



Deborah Hook

"Mrs. Hook's experience and knowledge of Chickasaw Nation programs, and her positive relationships with Tishomingo-area residents will bolster our ability to deliver much-needed services to Chickasaw citizens and the community," said Gov. Anoatubby. "She brings enthusiasm, compassion and knowledge to her new position."

As Tishomingo Area Office director, Mrs. Hook will coordinate outreach efforts of Chickasaw Nation programs and services to tribal citizens in Johnston, Marshall and Bryan counties. Outreach includes the Community Health Representative (CHR) program, youth employment and energy assistance programs.

One of Mrs. Hook's first duties as Tishomingo Area Office director was to coordinate the elder holiday basket program at Christmas. The basket program provides traditional holiday hams and turkeys, plus the trimmings, to Chickasaw elders at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

"Seeing so many familiar faces was a blessing," she said. "Everyone was full of gratitude and thankfulness to receive the baskets."

Mrs. Hook said she was honored to be able to return in her hometown to serve citizens of Chickasaw Nation and the area.

"It is heartwarming to know I will be serving the people who served this community when

I was a child," she said. "I feel honored to be able to come back home and assist people I grew up around."

Her parents still live in Tishomingo and she said it was a blessing to be able to see them every day.

Prior to assuming the Area Officer directorship, Mrs. Hook was the Chickasaw Nation Higher Education manager.

She started her career with the Chickasaw Nation in 1992,

shortly after earning her bachelor's degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Mrs. Hook and her husband, Michael, have two children, Mikayla, a Tishomingo High School student, and Heath, a fourth grader at Tishomingo Elementary School.

In her spare time, she watches her children play "any and every" kind of sport.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

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Canine friends, CHR, Area Office combine for a great experience



Minta Roper, right, and Chickasaw Nation CHR Cheryl Willis with Mahli Ishto. Ms. Roper and Ms. Willis have forged a special bond that goes beyond client/ caregiver relationships throughout the years.

The Chickasaw Nation Sulphur Area Office holds special meaning to Chickasaw citizen Minta Roper and her beloved German Shepherd "Mahli Ishto" (Big Tornado Wind).

The office staff is more akin to family to Ms. Roper and it is clear the feeling is mutual, so her latest accomplishment feels like the accomplishment of the entire office.

Cheryl Willis has served as Ms. Roper's Customer Health

Representative through the Chickasaw Nation for about four years and is Ms. Roper's biggest supporter.

Chickasaw Nation CHRs work with Chickasaw citizens to promote their highest possible health and wellness level.

In this position, Ms. Willis has become well-acquainted with Ms. Roper and her award-winning German Shepherds.

In the process, the pair has developed a long-lasting

friendship.

"This is not just a job, this is a calling," said Ms. Willis.

Ms. Roper is disabled and credits her dogs for keeping her going each day.

"The dogs keep me alive, someone has to take care of them, and that has to be me," she said. "I can't just go to bed. I have things to do!"

The vast amount of care, time and work Ms. Roper has invested in her dogs is evident.

"Mahli" is from both a German and American line of Shepherds.

"She is a hybrid," said Ms. Roper.

She also understands commands in German, Chickasaw, Czechoslovakian and English.

Ms. Roper has taken her fondness for the breed to the next level. She and her dogs participate in dog shows with her dog handler, Rebecca Kuchera.

As a result, "Mahli Ishto" was recently recognized as the "Best Female" and "Best of Winners" in the Oklahoma Ameri-

can Eskimo Dog Club show.

"They (the dogs) are much more than ribbons and glory, they are therapeutic," she said.

There has been a large learning curve for Ms. Roper to get to this point.



Mahli Ishto

She became interested in German Shepherds when she was a groomer for more than 20 years, and while working in veterinarian clinics and boarding kennels.

Today, Ms. Roper can tell a listener almost everything about German Shepherds.

She spends many hours working and training her three German Shepherds, "Mahli," "Twisted Sister" and "Nashoba."

"They are her babies," said Ms. Willis. "They mind well."

Ms. Roper also is very resourceful on-line in an effort to take care of her dogs.

"She is an on-line genius," Ms. Willis said. "She takes surveys to get coupons for vet visits. She is the money saving

queen!"

"My library card is also worn out," Ms. Roper laughed. "But the day I stop learning is the day I die."

Ms. Willis said she received encouragement from Ms. Roper every day.

"She calls me every morning. She is the most motivated person I know."

Giving Back to her Tribe

Ms. Roper hopes to one day donate one of her future puppies to Chickasaw Nation Search and Rescue.

"That is one thing I really want to do, to have one of Mahli's puppies serve with the Search and Rescue, to be able to give back to the tribe."

Tribal Connection

Ms. Roper's grandmother, Bessie Greenwood-Roper, was an original enrollee and a fluent Chickasaw speaker.

"She raised me," said Ms. Roper.

Her Chickasaw heritage inspired her to name her dogs Chickasaw names. She also chose the names to show her Chickasaw pride.

"I am proud of being Indian and very proud of being Chickasaw. Every day is a good day to be indigenous."

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

Tera Williams promoted to GM

Chickasaw ladies making sure Chisholm Trail's a winner



Tera Williams

DUNCAN, Okla. - Two Chickasaw citizens are now at the helm of Chisholm Trail Casino in Duncan.

Tera Williams was recently promoted to general manager of the facility. Donna Hutchins has served as assistant general manager of the facility since December 2010.

"Ms. Williams and Ms. Hutchins bring a wealth of



Donna Hutchins

knowledge, enthusiasm and initiative to their new positions," Gov. Bill Anoatubby said. "They both have shown outstanding leadership qualities and skills that promise to take this facility to the next level. We are pleased to have these two highly-qualified individuals at the helm of Chisholm Trail."

As Chisholm Trail general

manager, Ms. Williams' role includes managing a team of 150 employees, developing and executing departmental objectives, standards, guidelines and budget, as well as ensuring adherence and compliance to rules and regulations of the National Indian Gaming Commission, Chickasaw Nation Gaming Commission and any other applicable tribal regulation and laws.

Ms. Williams, who served as general manager of Madill Gaming until her promotion to Chisholm Trail, has been a tribal Division of Commerce employee for the past seven years. She began her service as an electronic games floor attendant at Goldsby Gaming in 2004. She was quickly promoted to bingo cashier and then to bingo floor clerk where she developed a preliminary paper bingo program. She was promoted to electronic games

shift supervisor at Goldsby in 2010 where she managed a team of 15 employees.

In 2010, Ms. Williams enrolled in the Chickasaw Nation Commerce Division's Fast Track Leadership Program. She was promoted to General Manager of Madill Gaming where she served nine months.

"Ms. Williams' rise through the ranks within the Commerce Division has been amazing to watch," said Clint Chadwick, Division of Commerce chief operating officer. "She has developed considerable management experience in the past few years and has a very good understanding of hospitality and gaming. She has been and will continue to be a tremendous asset within the Commerce Division."

Ms. Hutchins has been a steady force behind the ongoing improvements at Chisholm Trail, Mr. Chadwick said, the

two will be a successful management team.

Ms. Williams earned her bachelor's degree in information studies from the University of Oklahoma where she received such accolades as National Dean's List, Chickasaw Nation Higher Education Grant, Chickasaw Nation Higher Education Scholarship, National Honor Roll and the Chickasaw Nation Governor's Scholarship Award.

While attending college, Ms. Williams served as president of the American Indian Student Association, representing American Indian students on campus. She also served as treasurer of Gamma Delta Phi Native American Sisterhood and was a member of the American Indian Scholar Program.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

BIRTHS



Camdyn Elaine Carpenter

Camdyn Elaine Carpenter was born October 12, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz. and measured 20.5 inches at birth.

She is the daughter of Chris and Jessica Carpenter, of Tulsa. She is the sibling to Cade Neal Carpenter, 2.

She is the granddaughter of Rob and Jodi Marshall, of Tyler, Texas and Don and Dex Carpenter, of Ada, Okla.

JJ Stewart named to All-State softball team



JJ Stewart

JJ Stewart has recently been named to the Small East All-State softball team. The All-State games will be played at the University of Oklahoma in June.

Miss Stewart attends Roff (OK) High School and has been a four-year starter. Roff has been State Runner-Up in fast pitch twice and qualified for state three other times in slow pitch and fast pitch. Besides playing softball, JJ plays basketball and is a 4.0 student.

She is also a concurrent student with 32 hours of 4.0 grade point average college credit.

Miss Stewart is the daughter of Mike and Jana Stewart, of Roff, and the granddaughter of Vernon Brown and Ellen Green, of Roff, and Bobby and Neva Jo Stewart, of Connerville, Okla.



Addilyn LaNell Ernst

Addilyn LaNell Ernst was born 6:52 p.m., December 9, 2011. She weighed 7 lbs., 9.8 oz., and measured 19 1/2 inches at birth.

She is the daughter of Kristen Auten and Mike Ernst.

She is the granddaughter of Janice and Ken Smith, of Hurst, Texas and Jamie and Dixie Ernst-Phillips, of Ada, Okla.

Student inducted into Alpha Chi Society



Jerris Dee Egge

Chickasaw student Jerris Dee Egge has recently been inducted into the Alpha Chi Honor Society.

Miss Egge has just completed her junior year at East Central University, Ada, Okla.

She is the daughter of Walter and Sheila Egge, of Wewoka, Okla.

She is the granddaughter of Walt and Val Egge, of Hurley, N.M., and a descendant of O.E. Walter Jack.



Carter Stall Henson

Carter Stall Henson was born December 9, 2011. He weighed 7 lbs., 6 oz and measured 20.5 inches at birth.

Carter is the son of Eric Henson and Paula Smith. He is the brother of Grace Kyrk.

He is the grandson of Jim and Connie Bielfeldt, Bill and Anne Smith and David and Connie Stall. He is the great-grandson of Nadine Henson.



Priscilla Jo Kimber Harjo

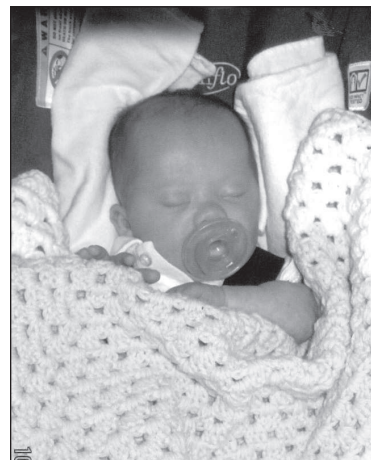
Priscilla Jo Kimber Harjo was born November 30, 2011. She weighed 6.6 lbs. and measured 19 inches at birth.

Priscilla is the daughter of Conjot Harjo and Ryan Ann Swafford.

Triana Browne-Hearrell crowned Miss Black & Gold at Oklahoma State's Alpha Phi Alpha



Triana Browne-Hearrell



Noland Wyatt Fognini

Josh and Lauren Gibson, of Plano, Texas announce the birth of their nephew, Noland Wyatt Fognini.

Noland was born 12:57 p.m., August 30, 2011 at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in Durant. He weighed 3 lbs., 15 oz., and measured 17.5 inches at birth.

He is the son of Kellie Lyn Richardson and Dustin Keith Fognini, of Kingston, Okla.

He is the grandson of Ronald and Wanda Gibson, of Madill, Okla., and Dan and Sherry Fognini, of Gordonville, Texas.

He is the great-grandson of the late Orville William (Bill) and Lynida Wyatt and the late Virgil Eugene (Bud) Carter, all of Madill.



Madison Paige Milne

Madison Paige Milne was born 3:32 p.m., November 4, 2011 at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. She weighed 7 lbs., 18 oz., and measured 18 inches at birth.

She is the daughter of Brad Milne and Kala Stephens.

She is the granddaughter of Brenda Stephens, Jackie Stephens, Theresa Holman and Jerry Milne.

She is the great-granddaughter of Mrytle Pyburn, Rosie Postoak, Geneva Holman and Norma and Jerry Milne.

She is the great-great-granddaughter of Pauline Walker.

*Twinkle Twinkle little star
what a joyous miracle you are...*

*Chad Milne is happy to announce
the birth of
his beautiful sister
Madison Paige Milne*

Chickasaw student to OCU's School of Music



Katie Barrick

Chickasaw violinist and fiddler Katie Barrick has been accepted into Oklahoma City University's Wanda L. Bass School of Music. Miss Barrick is majoring in music business with future plans to work in the field of music production.

Miss Barrick is thrilled to be a part of this prestigious music program and is looking forward to this exciting, new step in her career path.

She is the daughter of Roland and Melissa Barrick.



Ashlee Michelle Dowdy

Ashlee Dowdy receives bachelor's from OSU

Ashlee Michelle Dowdy graduated December 17, 2011 from the College of Human Sciences at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, earning her bachelor of science degree in Interior Design.

Wearing the Chickasaw graduation honor stole for her academic achievement, Ms. Dowdy is especially grateful to the Chickasaw Nation for the support she received. Her degree and several Chickasaw Nation summer internships enhanced her resume and will help her find the perfect job to begin her career in interior design.

Summer internships included working with the Chickasaw Nation Housing and Tribal Development and Arts and Humanities departments in Ada, Okla., and the National Indian Education Association in Washington, D.C. She also interned this past summer in Chicago, and was instrumental in conducting a sustainable lighting survey at Argonne National Laboratory.

Ms. Dowdy is the daughter of David Campbell and Linda Cress Dowdy, of Plano, Texas and sister of Caitlyn Victoria Dowdy who is currently a Chickasaw scholarship recipient and junior at the University of Oklahoma.

Ms. Dowdy encourage all Chickasaw students to take part in the summer internship and scholarship programs sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation. She is very thankful

the valuable experiences she received through these programs will help her soon find employment in a firm specializing in sustainable design.



Don Gardner DVM

Chickasaw vet honored by Virginia peers

A Chickasaw veterinarian has recently been honored for his work with cattle.

Dr. Don Gardner, of Hudleston, Virginia, was named 2011 Bovine Practitioner of the Year by the American Association of Animal Behavior Professionals (AABP).

Dr. Gardner was born and raised in Oklahoma. He graduated from the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1970. He and his wife Susan moved to Roanoke, Virginia where Dr. Gardner took his first job with a mixed practice veterinary clinic.

The Gardners moved to Bedford County, Virginia where they established their own mixed animal practice. In addition to the practice, the Gardners' farming operation included a cow/calf component.

Dr. Gardner honed his production medicine skills and became very active on several AABP committees, most particularly the animal welfare committee.

He is a past president of the Virginia Academy of Food Animal Practice, and serves on the Bedford County Agricultural

Advisory Board.

In 2006, Dr. Gardner was named the Milk and Beef Quality Assurance Veterinarian of the Year. In 2004, he received the Professional Dairy Calf and Heifer Association's highest award, the Roger Cady Award for Leadership, Dedication and Perseverance.

The Gardners' farm and replacement heifer facilities have been the recipients of numerous awards for quality and conservation practices.



Elizabeth Rose Biele

Elizabeth Biele named to WCU Dean's List

Elizabeth Rose Biele of Charlotte, N.C., was named to the Dean's Fall 2011 List at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must achieve at least a 3.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0 regular semester work of not less than 12 hours in courses.

Her undergraduate major is communication sciences disorders. Upon completing her bachelor of science she plans to attend graduate school to study audiology.

Ms. Biele is the daughter of Steven and Deborah Biele, of Charlotte, and the granddaughter of Charles E. and Rose Blankenship, of Stonewall, Okla.

Kingery named Music Fest commissioned artist



Brenda Kingery

Chickasaw artist Brenda Kingery, of San Antonio, Texas, has been selected the 2012 commissioned artist for the Chickasaw Chamber Music Festival, scheduled for 2012 at the McSwain Theatre in Ada.

Holding numerous awards, commissions, and often exhibiting or teaching art around

the world, Ms. Kingery serves as presidential appointee on the Board of Trustees for the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) in Santa Fe, N.M. She will exhibit her work in Paris, France, in March and was a featured artist in the "Art of the Chickasaw Woman" exhibit during the 2011 Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Conference and Forum.

She holds a bachelor's of fine arts and master's in art history and painting from the University of Oklahoma. She has also studied Japanese history, folk art and culture in Okinawa, Japan, with post graduate studies in Chinese history and language at Texas Tech University.

Her "Hands of Hope" Textile Program assists women in third world countries such as Uganda, Mexico, Honduras and also in her home state of Texas.

Hodges celebrate 55th wedding anniversary



James Donald and Inge (Hitz) Hodges, of Oklahoma City, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary January 31, 2012.

The Hodges were married at Erlangen, Germany where Mr. Hodges was stationed with the U.S. Army. Mr. Hodges served two tours in Vietnam. After 20 years in the U.S. Army he retired with 100% disability.

Mrs. Hodges is a homemaker.

Mr. Hodges is a direct descendant of original Chickasaw enrollee, Rose Melton Hodges, his grandmother.

He is the brother of Lura Helen Mullican, of Ada, Okla.

Congratulations, We love you.

Lura Helen Mullican and all the family



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Officer Michael Holloway named 'Lighthorse Police Officer of the Year'



Michael Holloway

Michael Holloway likes to stay busy.

The Lighthorse Police De-

partment officer took more criminals off the streets last year than any sworn officer in the department.

"I try to get everything done on time," the 29-year-old said. "I don't like to have any pending cases."

Officer Holloway was recently named "Lighthorse Police Officer of the Year" for his dedication and service, which included more than 1,000 calls for service, more than 130 criminal cases and 50 arrests.

"I try to help out as many people as I can and sometimes that means taking them to

jail," he said.

Officer Holloway, who joined Lighthorse as a dispatcher in 2004, said he had always been interested in law enforcement.

He became a commissioned officer in 2008 and said he likes "the change of scenery."

"Instead of being the one on the phone in a room talking to people, you are there in person talking to them," he said.

Being an officer, he said, allowed him the opportunity to meet more people and help them.

He especially enjoys interacting with children during

his day patrols of tribal communities.

"Last year, I passed out I don't know how many stickers," he said. "They (children) always knew when I was coming in."

Something else Officer Holloway enjoys doing is volunteering at the annual Lighthorse Police Academy. The four-day academy provides Chickasaw youth an inside look into the world of law enforcement, with lessons on crime investigation, fire arms handling, first aid and many more.

Last year, Officer Holloway

taught defensive tactics including handcuffing.

"It gives them an idea of what we do," he said.

Mr. Holloway describes his department as "a family."

"You can count on everybody here," he said. "I wouldn't be anywhere else."

Officer Holloway lives in Ada, Okla., with his wife Ashlee. The couple has children, Braxton, Brayden and Addison.

CONTRIBUTED BY Sharmina Manandhar, tribal media relations.

Stumblingbear, Landwehr to All-Indian Center board



Lynn Stumblingbear, left, and Carey Landwehr.

Two Chickasaw citizens serving as board members of the Mid-America All-Indian Center (MAAIC) in Wichita, Kan.

Lynn Stumblingbear was recently seated as Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees for MAAIC.

Ms. Stumblingbear previ-

ously served as a member of the board from 1996 through 1998 and will serve from 2011 through 2013. She is Co-Chair of the American Indian Festival Contest Pow Wow and Art Market (July 14 - 15) in Wichita.

Carey Landwehr is serving her first term as a board member slated 2012 through 2014. She has been a volunteer for programs with the MAAIC.

Both women are active in the Chickasaw Community Council.

"We look forward to serving together in our community for a long time," Ms. Landwehr said.

Community Council of Wichita

The Community Council of Wichita, Kansas met January 15 at the Mid-America All-Indian Center. We had a great attendance with people looking forward to hearing LaDonna Brown's presentation on Chickasaw history and customs.

Her presentation sparked a lively questions and comments. Everyone enjoyed the information she brought.

Also in attendance were four of our Chickasaw Legislators, Nancy Elliott, Toby Perkins,

Dean McMannus and Connie Barker. They introduced themselves and shared valuable news from the Nation.

With us from the Nation was Vickye Gordon, our Chickasaw Council Liaison Officer. We heard from Brandi Springer, Native American Health Access Worker from Hunter Health Clinic. She shared information on Healthwave for children. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 15 at the Mid-America All-Indian Center.

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Chickasaw Citizen

Lowrance, Plott exchange vows at Fossil Creek Ranch in Fittstown



Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Plott

Kenny and Debbie Lowrance are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter, Jody Lynn Lowrance, of Sulphur, Okla., to Jeffrey T. Plott, of Ada, Okla. Vows were exchanged during an elegant sunset at Fossil Creek Ranch September 30, 2011 with Scout Cloud Lee officiating.

The couple wishes to thank family and friends for being part of their special day. Sincere appreciation goes out to Mrs. Shelley Ridley for her wedding planning expertise.

Both Jeff and Jody have been employees of the Chickasaw Nation for years.

Identification required

New Health Division rules for controlled drug pickup

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Health, in accordance with the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Control, has announced new requirements for picking up a controlled drug.

Beginning January, all Division of Health patients prescribed a controlled substance will have to present their identifications when picking up their prescription at the pharmacy. Also, any individual picking up a controlled drug

on behalf of a patient will be required to present his or her identification as well as the identification of the patient or "ultimate user."

Acceptable forms of identifications are:

State Issued Driver's License (not expired)

State Issued Identification Card (not expired)

Military ID

Passport

A controlled drug is one which has the potential for

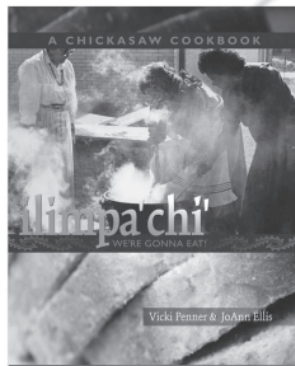
abuse and addiction. Examples include clonazepam, Tylenol#3, oxycodone, Robitussin/codeine, zolpidem, pentazocine/naloxone and many more.

The new guideline strives to prevent the diversion of the prescription drugs for illegal purposes.

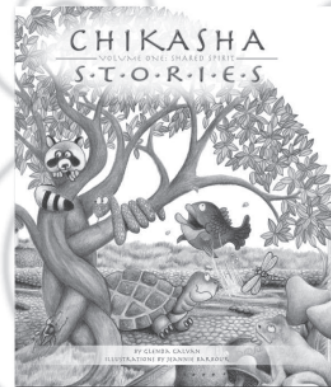
For more information, please call 1-800-851-9136 ext. 81551.

CONTRIBUTED BY Sharmina Manandhar, tribal media relations.

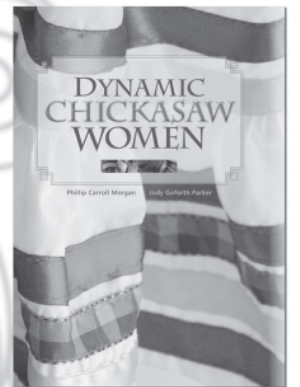
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The Chickasaw Press is a department of the Chickasaw Nation Division of History and Culture.

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PANOLA SENIOR CENTER | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ters located in 12 Oklahoma communities.

In addition to meals, the Chickasaw Nation Aging program offers arts and crafts, fundraisers, trips, health screenings and education on various issues for seniors.

In addition to the new Senior Center in Colbert, the Chickasaw Nation has senior sites in Achille, Ada, Ard-

more, Connerville, Duncan, Kullihoma, Madill, Pauls Valley, Purcell, Sulphur and Tishomingo.

For more information about the Panola Senior Center and eligibility requirements, call the Chickasaw Nation Division on Aging, call (580) 795-9790.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, tribal media relations.

AARP initiates Indian Elder Navigator

OKLAHOMA CITY - AARP Oklahoma has announced the launch of the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Navigator - a single point of entry website for Indian elder services that can be accessed at www.aarp.org/okindiannavigator

"We hope this new website will be a place where Indian elders from any Oklahoma Indian tribe can go to find the service or resource that best fits their needs," said AARP Executive Council Member and former Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe John Edwards. "We envision it as a 'living room' of information for tribal elders."

The AARP Indian Elder Navigator is a resource center where tribes can list their contact information and resources on such topics as housing, transportation and health care. At its launch, information on tribal nutrition and food commodity programs were posted on the site.

AARP and AARP Foundation have launched "Drive to End Hunger" to raise awareness of senior hunger and enroll more seniors in the Supplemental Food Nutrition Program (SNAP). Edwards said AARP Oklahoma is expanding Drive to End Hunger to Indian country by posting Indian nutri-

tion sites and food commodity distribution programs on the Indian Elder Navigator.

AARP officials said they hoped to work directly with tribal leaders and program directors from all federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma to add new and updated information to the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Navigator. Program directors with questions about adding their program information can contact Craig Davis at cedavis@aarp.org

The association will also make presentations to Indian elder groups and tribal councils in the upcoming year.

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Suzy Hannah December Student of the Month

Ms. Suzy Hannah has been selected December 2011 student of the month.

Ms. Hannah is a senior at Wayne High School and is active in basketball, yearbook and band. She recently had the honor of marching on the field of Oklahoma State University's Boone Pickens Stadium while her high school played for the state Class A championship.



Suzy Hannah

She made the East Central Oklahoma Band Director's Association's All District Band twice and placed first at the Oklahoma State Fair.

Ms. Hannah has been a member of the honor roll since sixth grade and participated in the Mid-America scholastic meet where she won a bronze medal in world history. She is a member of the National Honor Society and her basketball team won an academic achievement the previous two years.

She has volunteered for the

Byars Halloween Carnival and worked the Lights of Purcell by taking donations. Her other volunteer activities include tutoring third graders, performing in the jazz band for senior citizens and helping renovate a church.

Ms. Hannah plans to attend Oklahoma City Community College majoring in film and video production. She recently formed an editing company with a friend, BSProductions, and will continue working there after college.

Foundation employees Carter, Rolan graduate Leadership Ada



Tracie Carter and Brandon Rolan show their awards for graduating from Leadership Ada in January 2012.

Congratulations to Ms. Tracie Carter, special projects coordinator, and Mr. Brandon Rolan, academic advisor for the Chickasaw Foundation! They successfully completed the Leadership Ada program coordinated by the Ada Area Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Carter and Mr. Rolan were honored along with other graduates on January 12 at the Oak Hills Golf and Country Club in Ada, Okla.

At-Large citizens can call with health questions

Are you a Chickasaw citizen living outside the tribal boundaries? Would you like more information on Division of Health programs and services available to you?

If so, call Amy Wampler, Services At-Large Case Manager, at 800-851-9136 ext. 61097.

Elder case manager ready to help you

Are you a Chickasaw Elder age 60 or older? Do you live within the tribal boundaries?

If so, call Stefanie Luna, Elder Case Manager at 800-851-9136 ext. 80110 for personalized assistance navigating the Health System.

Citizens At-Large Help Number

For information on services or help with questions, call toll-free 1-866-466-1481.

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Chickasaw Citizens

Professional Opportunities with the Chickasaw Nation Division of Health

Due to the expansion at the new Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada, Oklahoma, the Division of Health has professional openings in the following specialties:

- Pediatrician (Ada)
- Emergency Department Physician (Ada)
- Dentist (Ardmore Clinic)
- Optometrist (Ada)
- Magnetic Resonance Technologist (Ada)
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Physician Assistant

For details on any of these professional positions, please contact:

Ronnie Shaw, Professional Recruiter

Chickasaw Nation Division of Health

(580) 310-6465 (office)

(580) 272-7272 (mobile)

ronnie.shaw@chickasaw.net

Beth Campbell, Staff Recruiter

Chickasaw Nation Division of Health

(580) 559-0880 (office)

(580) 272-7320 (mobile)

beth.campbell@chickasaw.net



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Marlin Gore - Chickasaw Citizen

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For a complete listing of Chickasaw Nation camps, academies and other events visit www.chickasaw.net

OKLAHOMA

ACHILLE

Achille Area Chickasaws
Quarterly, last Saturday at 1:30 p.m.
Kay Anders, 580-283-3979

CONNERVILLE

Connerville Chickasaw Community Council
Bi-Monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Tony Poe, 580-421-4994

KINGSTON

Chickasaws of Texoma
Quarterly, 4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Ruth McAdoo, 580-564-6803

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly, 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Sarah Lea, 580-564-4570

NEWCASTLE

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Thursday
Potluck at 6 p.m. and Meeting at 7 p.m.
Todd Griffith, 405-615-1303

OKLAHOMA CITY

OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
1st Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Billy Hester, 405-340-5469

PURCELL

Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
John Hobbs, 405-922-3926

TISHOMINGO

Johnston County Chickasaw Community Council
Bi-monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Ann Fink, 580-371-3351

ARIZONA

Chickasaws of Arizona
Quarterly Meetings
Angie Ott, 480-834-7309

CALIFORNIA

Inland Empire/Desert Cities Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly, 3rd Saturday 2:00 p.m.
Bill Chandler, 714-604-5224 or wchandler@socal.rr.com

Northern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly
Phil Reynolds, 916-988-8182

COLORADO

Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado
Bi-Monthly
Stephen Bingham, 303-377-4637

KANSAS

Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita
Quarterly, 3rd Sunday at 2:30 p.m.
Lynn Stumblingbear, (316) 945-9219

LOUISIANA

Monroe Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

MISSOURI

St. Louis Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW ENGLAND

New England Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Chris Rodke, 505-450-4802

NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

OREGON/WASHINGTON

Pacific Northwest Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Kim Factor, 503-819-3097 or Rena Smith, 503-543-7401

TEXAS

Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas
2nd Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Charles Holland, 512-341-0024

Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas
Monthly, 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Mark Fields, 210-269-2619

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
3rd Saturday
John C. Atkins, 972-271-0692

Tyler Area Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Howard Thompson, 903-570-9244

Texarkana Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

Complete the Customer Service Survey and win!

Chickasaw citizens who complete a tribal customer service survey can win \$100.

Chickasaws can access the Customer Service Survey through the tribal website at www.chickasaw.net. The survey seeks input from citizens regarding tribal programs, services and customer service.

After completing the survey, enter the giveaway. The \$100 will be given away each quarter. Winners will be announced in *the Chickasaw Times*.

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LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION

Chickasaw Nation Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
December 16, 2011

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Chairperson David Woerz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

Members present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

Staff present: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary, Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms, Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel

Guests present: Jeff O ‘Dell, Richard Ferguson, Dana Lance, Mike Watson, Rita Loder, Jennifer Owens, Ron Frazier

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Ms. Green.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES -
November 18, 2011

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mrs. Alexander to approve the minutes of November 18, 2011.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

13 yes votes

The motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2011, carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
(A) LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Steve Woods

Permanent Resolution Number 29-002, Amendments to Titles 1 and 2 of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Corrections)

This resolution corrects section numbers and adds missing titles in Titles 1 and 2 of the Chickasaw Nation Code.

A motion was made by Mr. Woods and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve PR29-002.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

13 yes votes

The motion to approve PR29-002 carried unanimously.

Mr. Woods concluded his report.

(B) HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Dean McManus

General Resolution Number 29-012, Assurances for the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation’s application for an Indian Community Development Block Grant for a community facility funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to establish a facility in which family members of the Chickasaw Nation may gather and meet for a variety of meetings and events in Ardmore, Carter County, Oklahoma. This resolution also provides assurances required by the program.

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Green to approve GR29-012.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David

Woerz

13 yes votes

The motion to approve GR29-012 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 29-013, Application for Grants under the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs (Tribal Water Rights)

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation’s partnership with the Choctaw Nation and designates the Choctaw Nation as the lead in preparing the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs Water Resources Funding program: Tribal Water Rights Litigation/Negotiation for the fiscal year 2012. The Choctaw Nation will submit the grant; serve as the point of contact for the funding agency; and receive and distribute the grants funds if awarded.

A motion was made by Ms. Barker and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve GR29-013.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

13 yes votes

The motion to approve GR29-013 carried unanimously.

Ms. McManus concluded her report.

(C) ELECTIONS RULES AND REGULATIONS AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Steve Woods

Permanent Resolution 28-007, Amendments to Title 8, Chapter 3 Section 8-301 of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Changing Voter Districts)

This resolution approves amendments to Title 8, Chapter 3 Section 8-301 of the Chickasaw Nation Code so that voters residing outside the boundaries of the Chickasaw Nation shall be allowed to change from

one voting district to another district one time beginning on January 1, 2012. All voter district changes shall be submitted in writing to the Election Secretary/Tribal Registrar.

A motion was made by Mr. Woods and seconded by Mrs. Alexander to take PR28-007 from the table.

Mr. Woods read the resolution with amendments.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

13 yes votes

The motion to take PR28-007 from the table carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Woods and seconded by Ms. Alexander to approve PR28-007, as amended.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

13 yes votes

The motion to approve PR28-007, as amended, carried unanimously.

Mr. Woods concluded his report.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

Mr. Mike Watson made comments on water rights and voter rules and regulations. Announcements were made by Chairperson Woerz.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:20 a.m. Respectfully submitted, Dean McManus, Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature
Prepared by: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

2010-2011 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District

Seat #

1. Toby Perkins
15810 CR 1569
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 399-2606 Cell
Toby.Perkins@chickasaw.net

2. Nancy Elliott
620 Ann
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 399-4374
Nancy.Elliott@chickasaw.net

3. Katie Case
14368 County Road 3597
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 272-8385
Katie.Case@chickasaw.net

4. Dean McManus
5980 CR 3430
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 235-2651
Dean.McManus@chickasaw.net

5. Mary Jo Green
2000 E. 14th Place
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 310-4563
Mary.Green@chickasaw.net

Pickens District

Seat #

1. David Woerz
P.O. Box 669
Ardmore, OK 73402
(580) 235-3240
David.Woerz@chickasaw.net

2. Connie Barker
509 SW 7th Ave.
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 272-4175
Connie.Barker@chickasaw.net

3. Linda Briggs
400 NW 4th
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 272-7268
Linda.Briggs@chickasaw.net

4. Shana Tate Hammond
801 N. Mississippi
Ada, Oklahoma
(580) 235-1438
Shana.Hammond@chickasaw.net

Tishomingo District

Seat #

1. D. Scott Colbert
P.O. Box 773
Sulphur, OK 73086
(580) 421-3425
Scott.Colbert@chickasaw.net

2. Tim Colbert
P.O. Box 773
Sulphur, OK 73086
(580) 421-7242
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net

3. Steven Woods
4736 Chickasaw Trail
Sulphur, OK 73086
(580) 272-7270
Steve.Woods@chickasaw.net

Panola District

Seat #

1. Beth Alexander
Box 246
Achille, OK 74720
(580) 283-3409
beth.alexander@chickasaw.net
bethalexander22@hotmail.com

Otis Dewayne Bane Bigbie



Otis Dewayne Bane Bigbie, 84, of Ringling, Okla., died November 17, 2011 at Oklahoma City, surrounded by his family. Services were November 19 at First Baptist Church, Ringling with Rev. Mike Williams officiating. Interment followed in Ringling Memorial Cemetery.

Mr. Bigbie was born August 21, 1927 at Ardmore, Okla. He was the second son of Clarence and Fannie Jewel (Coffey) Bigbie, an original enrollee.

The Bigbie family's ranch is still located on land allotted to Fannie Jewel Coffey Bigbie 106 years ago.

Mr. Bigbie was proud of his Chickasaw heritage.

He attended Ringling schools through his junior year in high school, then his family moved to Tipton, Okla. He graduated from Tipton High School in 1945 and served in the U.S. Coast Guard as an aviation radio man on a Catalina Sea Plane. He was honorably discharged in 1947.

He married Wilma Kathern Winn in 1949 at Weleetka, Okla. They returned to Ringling in 1950 to raise their family of four children. She preceded him in death in 1985.

He then married Faye (Roberts) Allred in 1987 at Zaneis, Okla.

He was in the cattle and insurance industries.

In addition to his family, some of his greatest joys were his ranch, horses and cattle, whistling, crossword puzzles, sports and bottomless cups of coffee at Little Nell's (and before that the 70 Cafe). He was an avid pilot before his heart kept him from passing a physical. Many remember his deep baritone voice announcing the Ringling Rodeo and Blue Devil football games.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Wilma Bigbie (1985); and brothers, Gene (1994) and Burke (1991).

He is survived by his wife, Faye, of the home; his children, Bane Bigbie and wife, Melanie and Kathi Trent and husband, Randall, all of Norman, Okla., Dr. Rocky Bigbie, DVM and

wife, Laurie, of Guthrie, Okla., and Stacy Woodruff and husband, Jon, of Knoxville, Tenn.; step-daughter, Sue Grissom and husband, M.W. "Sonny" Wilson; 13 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a sister, Patricia Kelly, of Redmond, Wash.; sister-in-laws Sally Ann Bigbie, of Hobbs, N.M., Babe Bigbie, of Huffman, Texas, Sharon Scott, of Roswell, N.M., and Wilda Winn, of Woodland, Calif.; and numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and many close friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to Ringling First Baptist Church.

Pallbearers were Scott Trent, Jas Trent, Nathan Bigbie, Ben Bigbie, Brett Bigbie, Hunter Bigbie, Parker Woodruff and Jacky Grissom.

Honorary pallbearers were Terry Snell, Jerry Dillard, Randall Trent, Jon Woodroof, Sonny Grissom, Derek Ensminger, and the coffee drinking club at Little Nell's.

Dr. Louella Benson



Dr. Louella Midori Benson 49, of Culver City, Calif., died November 7 losing her courageous and fiercely fought battle with cancer. Services were November 13, 2011 at Culver Palms Church of Christ, Los Angeles, with Rev. Thomas G. Bost, Dean of the School of Law of Pepperdine University officiating.

She was born May 14, 1962 at Ada, Okla., to Edward Jerome and Kinue Benson.

Her great-grandmother, Ella Brown Colley, was a full-blood Chickasaw and original enrollee.

Dr. Benson spent the past 22 years creating and implementing strategic communication programs in competitive environments. Clients and employers included the Los Angeles Community College District, Motion Picture and Television Fund, Providence/Saint Joseph Medical Center, Watanabe Or-

thopedic Systems, Asian-Pacific American Artists recording studios, health care product manufacturers, media personalities and performing artists.

Prior to teaching at LMU, Dr. Benson was professor of the public relations major at Pepperdine University for 12 years and Public Relations Student Society of America faculty advisor. More recently, she taught in USC's Annenberg School for Communication and was director of Annenberg's summer internship program for public relations graduate students of London.

A three-time Pepperdine alumnus, Dr. Benson held an Ed.D in institutional management, an M.A. in communication and a B.A. in journalism.

She is survived by three daughters, Melody, Desiree and Amanda, of Culver City; parents, Edward Jerome Benson and Kinue Benson, of Chula Vista, Calif.; a sister, Tillie Benson; nieces, Cara and husband James Criswell, Lori and husband Mitch Wolfe, and Brooke Williams; great-nephews and great-nieces, Ryan Rico, Sadie Criswell, Maryanne Criswell, Riley Youngblood, Reece Harjo and namesake Louella Grace Wolfe, all of Ada, Okla.

Her love will live forever in our hearts. Thank you for every prayer and amazing act of kindness during this difficult time. God bless you!

The Louella Benson Family

Roy "Leroy" Christie



Roy "Leroy" Christie, 79, of Dickson, Okla., died January 6, 2012 at Marietta, Okla. Services were December 10 at Pickens Baptist Church, McMillan, Okla.

Mr. Christie was born June 22, 1932 to Edward Christie and Mina (Pickens) Christie at McMillan.

He married Larine James at Pickens Baptist Church.

Mr. Christie attended McMil-

lan Schools and then moved to Chicago where he became a bartender for several years. He moved back to Ardmore in the early 1980s and took a position with Bruce and Tom Harris as a truck driver for Southern Vending.

As a member of Pickens Baptist Church, he served as a deacon.

He loved working in the garden and working on cars. He also enjoyed listening to gospel music and watching westerns.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; three brothers, Isom Christie, Gilbert Christie and Elmer Christie; step-son Gerald Sockey; and step-daughter Patricia Sockey.

He is survived by four sons, Terry Christie and wife, Denise and Larry Christie, all of Philadelphia, Miss., Rick Christie and Eddie Christie, both of Ardmore; two daughters, Darla Henry and husband Kendal Thompson, of Ardmore, and Kathy Eye and husband Dan, of McMillan; 15 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; step-sons, Patrick James and wife, Lynne, Glen James, Dennis James and Mark James; step-daughters, Lenora James and Marilyn Cooper, both of Ardmore; two brothers, Aaron Christie, of Lone Grove and Frank Christie, of McMillan; two sisters, Leona Johnson, of Ardmore and Ella Ross, of Mannsville, Okla. His close friends of Choctaw, Mississippi and a host of family and friends.

Pallbearers were Rodney Ross, Patrick James, Glen James, Joseph Roberts, and Junior Christie. Honorary bearers were Carl Marris, Junior Marris, Johnny Christie, Preston Isaacs, John Phillips, Eddie Isaacs, Nate Gilpin, Gene Gilpin, and Sammy Powell.

Condolences may be left at www.Griffin-HillcrestFH.com

Joyce Dean Dawson (Berry)



Joyce Dean Dawson (Berry), 71, died January 5, 2012 after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

She was born June 15, 1940 to Gladys Wilson Berry Kull and Homer Jackson Berry at Casa Grande, Ariz.

She had six older siblings whom she dearly loved, Virginia Kersey, Billye Ware, Frances Laughlin, Wanda Attaway, Jack Berry, and Phyllis Woods.

For the past 45 years she was a resident of Lynnwood, Wash. She often traveled to be with family and was able to be present at high school and college graduations, weddings and numerous other events for her children and grandchildren.

She was a loving and caring woman who would do absolutely anything for her family and loved ones.

She is survived by her sister Frances Laughlin; her loving husband of nearly 55 years, Steven W. Dawson Sr.; her children Karen Barrington, Steven W. Jr. and wife Deborah Dawson, Lynne and husband Greg Hindman, and Mary Dawson; grandchildren, Joshua, Leah, Jeffrey, Christina, Brett, Tyler and wife Stephanie, Alyssa, Lauren, Ryan, Rachel, Johannah and Emilee; and great-granddaughter Celeste. Her circle of loving family and friends was vast and she will be missed.

Please contact the family for further information regarding her memorial service which will be at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in her name to the American Cancer Society at <https://www.cancer.org/involved/donate/donateonline/index> or to the "Puget Sound Cancer Centers-Relay for Life" 21605 76th Ave W. Suite 200, Edmonds, WA 98026.

Joseph Farve



Joseph "Indian Joe" Farve, 81, died December 20, 2011 at his home in Ardmore, Okla. Funeral services were December 23 at Griffin-Hillcrest Chapel with Dr. Emmerson Falls and Pastor Wayne Howard officiating. Interment followed in Newport Cemetery with Mr. Artie Farve officiating.

Mr. Farve was born July 27, 1930 at Marsden, Okla., to Ernest and Katie (Farve) Farve.

He married June (Van Buskirk) Mehagan December 21, 1973 at Gainesville, Texas.

Mr. Farve graduated from Plainview (OK) High School, class of 1949, and was a avid fan until his death. In his youth, he enjoyed playing on sandlot teams and officiating basketball. He went to work for Uniroyal and retired 13 years later.

Mr. Farve loved people and made friends with most people he would meet. He enjoyed visiting with his friends and drinking coffee at the local coffee shops. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He doted on his daughter until he turned his support to his grandchildren by attending any activity they were involved in.

Mr. Farve was an avid OU football fan and supporter of Brett Favre. He had been a member of Country Tabernacle Church of Lone Grove (OK), for the past 12 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Albert, Emil, Willie and David; and a sister, Evelyn Gardner.

He is survived by his wife, of the home; daughter, Sherri Taylor and husband Gaylon; grandchildren, Katelyn, Braylon and Kelsie Taylor, all of Lone Grove; step-children, Gregory Mehagan, of Ardmore, Paul Mehagan, of Tulsa, and Loretta Hall, of Oklahoma City; and a sister, Corene Falls, of Oklahoma City.

Pallbearers were Glenn Seekins, Eric McMillan, Matthew Farve, Dewayne Falls,

Artie Farve and Larry Smart; Honorary bearers were Jimmy Farve, Mike Shrouf, James Layton and George Taylor.

Condolences may be left at www.Griffin-HillcrestFH.com

Duane Lee Holman

Duane Lee Holman, 52, died December 11, 2011 at Ada, Okla. Services were December 17 at Smith-Phillips Funeral Home, Ada, with Rev. Jeff Frazier officiating. Interment took place in Underwood Family Cemetery near Coalgate, Okla.

He was born June 8, 1959 to Lloyd Holman and Jackie McCarty Holman at Dallas.

Mr. Holman moved to Ada in 2005 from Plano, Texas. He worked as a sheet rocker in the construction industry for many years.

He loved reading, fishing, hunting, and riding motorcycles.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Harvey and Gladys Holman and Chickasaw original enrollee Rev. Jackson and Lula McCarty; and one aunt Anna Lou and her husband John Burton.

He is survived by his parents, Lloyd and Jackie Holman, of Plano; two brothers, Brian Holman and his wife Judy, of Melissa, Texas, and Glenn Holman, of Plano; a sister, Lauren Carter and husband Michael, of Mead, Okla.; one uncle, Sim McCarty and his wife Thelma, of Hominy, Okla.; two aunts, Maurine Kemble and her husband John, of Midwest City, Okla., and Louise Jones, of Plano; and several nieces, nephews, and numerous cousins.

Pallbearers were Luke Holman, Mitchell Cannon, Karl Kemble, Shawn McCarty, Joseth Holman, and Jeff Case.

Online guest book at www.phillipsfuneralservice.com

Raymond Herbert Kent

Raymond Herbert Kent, 44, died January 20, 2012 at Lone Grove, Okla. Graveside services were January 15 at McAllister Cemetery, Carter County (OK) with Rev. Randy Baptiste officiating.

Mr. Kent was born August 22, 1967 to Cecil Herbert Kent and Anita Louise (YellowEagle) Kent at Atoka, Okla.

He was a carpenter by trade. He worked as a roofer for Erick Brawley Roofing and other local construction companies. He had a great love of family and in recent years, took care of his grandmother. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and greeted everyone with a smile. He was the perpetual joker and loved listening to music.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Janis Johnson.

He is survived by his grandmother, Lela Mae Cooper, of the home; children, Lyndsie Kent and Christopher Kent, both of Moore, Okla.; three grandchildren; and four siblings, Robin Kent, of Albuquerque, Cecil Kent, Jr., and James Paul Johnson, both of Ardmore, Okla., and Yolanda Johnson, of Lone Grove.

Condolences may be left at www.Griffin-HillcrestFH.com

Mary Lorene Renfro Pickett



Mary Lorene Renfro Pickett, 59, died January 2, 2012 at Ada, Okla.

She was born December 10, 1952 to James Leo and Lorene Vivian (Moore) Renfro at Comanche, Okla.

Mrs. Pickett was raised in Garvin (OK) County, Wynnewood, Okla., and attended school there graduating in 1971. She married Darron Dee Pickett in 1972 and soon began raising a family and making Pauls Valley home. The couple had two children, Monica LaRae born 1976, and Jamie Dewayne born 1978.

Mrs. Pickett worked a few places while in Pauls Valley including the Pauls Valley State School and she worked as a CNA at several nursing homes in the area. She loved helping people in need. For the little time she spent in California she worked at a military base. She was one-of-a-kind when it came to being helpful.

Mrs. Pickett was involved with her grandchildren's

school and sporting events. She also spent quiet evenings with the grandchildren just catching up on their lives.

She was a caregiver for her mother, Lorene, for over four years in Duncan, Okla., and Wynnewood. She also tended to her mothers husband, Paul, for over one year before his death.

She enjoyed reading all types of books (the Bible, magazines and the Chickasaw newspaper), sewing and embroidering quilts, playing darts and cooking. She was an excellent cook. When playing spoons she would get the whole crowd involved.

She attended the Antioch Cowboy Church at Maysville, Okla., and made her commitment to the Lord so she did not have a fear of dying. She was ready to meet the Lord at the Golden Gates.

She was preceded in death by her father, James Leo Renfro.

She is survived by her mother, Lorene Renfro, of Wynnewood; husband, Darron Dee Pickett, of Norman, Okla.; a son, Jamie DeWayne Pickett, of Maysville; a daughter, Monica LaRae Pickett Russell, of Maysville; three brothers, Gary and wife Janice, of Wilson, Okla., David and wife Jean, of Wynnewood, and Tom Renfro of Wilson; two sisters, Pearl Mathis, of Pauls Valley, Jo and husband Mike Williamson, of Elk City, Okla.; five grandchildren, Katelynn and Hunter Russell, and Olivia, Colton and Jason Pickett.

She had many nieces and nephews that became very close to her over the years.

She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends made in her short life. We only know she has gotten to the end of her journey in life, exactly ending where she wanted. HEAVEN.

Her journey is over and peace has come fast,

With each breath she took, so near to the last.

The family will gather to bid her farewell,

along with the Angels, their wings spread and so frail.

Mother, Daughter, Sister and Friend,

All pray to the Lord, that this is the end.

We love her and miss her already today,

But, know that the Lord has swept her away!

Donations in her memory can be made to: The Antioch Cowboy Church, % George Reynolds, 14328 Hwy 74, Maysville, Okla. 73057

Tommy A. Reed

Tommy A. Reed died September 4, 2011. Services were Sept. 9. He was born April 24, 1951 to Beuford and Alice (Taylor) Reed. He lived all his life in Chattanooga, Okla.

Mr. Reed served as long-time chief of the Chattanooga Police Department. He was a law enforcement officer for more than 25 years and served as past fire chief of the volunteer fire department, a board member of Great Plains Improvement Foundation, member of the First Baptist Church in Chattanooga, and a member of the Masonic Lodge 378 at Grandfield.

He grew up and graduated from Chattanooga High School. He lettered four years in baseball and was active in Future Farmers of America. He established Reed's Garage in Chattanooga and helped anyone who needed it. People who knew him tell how he would often deny payment from stranded motorists who didn't have much money, especially those with children. Testimonials affirmed his affection for mankind as community citizens told how he had protected them and their children at crosswalks and on the streets all of their lives. Local shop owners stated when they forgot to "lock up" he was sure to phone them and let them know he discovered the unlocked door and taken care of it.

He loved hunting, fishing and working on cars but most of all, he loved his family and he loved being Chickasaw.

He had recently attended the grand opening of the new Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur and the Annual Meeting and Festival, the Harvest Fest event at the Chickasaw White House.

Tommy's dedication to his duty and obligations as an officer of the law was obvious when more than 30 state law officers presided over his funeral, gave full escort to the cemetery and he was given a 21-gun salute farewell, ceremonies usually given to fallen officers in the line of duty.

He is survived by his wife Mary, of the home; two daughters, Sharon Reed and Robin Reed and family, all of Chattanooga; three brothers, Johnny, Nashville, Tenn., Donnie and Jim, both of Chattanooga.

Thank you to the Chickasaw Lighthouse Police for their special donation and to everyone who said prayers, shared, attended the service or just stood by us as we buried our loved one.

JANUARY 2011 RESOLUTIONS

General Resolution Number 29-014**Application for Grants under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

Explanation: This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's application for federal funding to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Native Americans for a Social and Economic Development Strategies grant. Funds from this grant will be utilized to increase the capacity to serve "at-risk" rural Chickasaw youth or other American Indian youth with mental health and/or substance abuse issues. The grant will build upon the Chickasaw Nation's holistic approach of in-

volving the family in a strategy that focuses on the connectedness of the body, mind, spirit and culture, "Chikashshaat ilokchina" (Chickasaw wellness)." The increased capacity will provide greater access for families to navigation and coordination of care services. The grant proposal is not to exceed \$400,000 per year for up to three (3) years.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Committee of the Whole Meeting
January 17, 2012**

Present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods

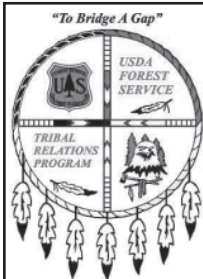
Absent: Connie Barker, David Woerz

**Finance Committee
January 17, 2012**

Present: Scott Colbert, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods

Human Resources Committee**January 17, 2012**

Present: Dean McManus, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins



11th Annual "TO BRIDGE A GAP" CONFERENCE

APRIL 2 - 5, 2012
Choctaw Casino and Resort



The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma will be hosting the 11th Annual "To Bridge A Gap" Conference, in collaboration with the National Forest Service. This conference is designed to strengthen Government-to-Government relationships between federal and state agencies, and federally-recognized Tribes with interests in our forests.

Topics for this year include:

Preconference Tribal Meeting with FCC
Regional Executive Session with Forest Leaders and Tribal Leaders
Introductory GPS/GIS Preconference Hands-On Workshop
NEPA and Section 106: Procedures and Issues
Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites
NAGPRA: Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
Tribal and Federal Collaborative Partnerships
FCC Consultation Meeting with Tribes
Tribal Relations Report
National Historic Preservation Program: Updates and Application Process

Guest Speaker: TBA

Several federal and state agencies will be present including National Forest Service from various regions, Army Corp. of Engineers, State Historic Preservation Offices, National Park Service, and National Resources Conservation Service.

The "To Bridge A Gap" Conference is a wonderful opportunity to discuss tribal relations and cultural preservation issues, and participate with others who are dedicated to improving this relationship.

For more information please contact Dr. Ian Thompson, Choctaw Nation Historic Preservation Department at (580) 924-8280 Ext. 2216, ithompson@choctawnation.com, or Johnnie Jacobs at (580) 924-8280 Ext. 2559, jjacobs@choctawnation.com.

Conference registration and hotel information can also be found on the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma website at www.choctawnationculture.com/TBAG2012.

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest open to Johnston County students grades 9-12

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - The Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4869 invites Johnston County students in grades 9 through 12 to enter the annual Young American Creative Patriotic Art contest.

The first-place winner will receive a cash award from the Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 4869 and will have his or her artwork sent to the state competition, which also provides cash awards for first and second place winners.

State winners will be forwarded to the national competition.

First prize for the national competition is a \$10,000 scholarship, a plaque and airfare plus two nights lodging to

attend the Ladies Auxiliary National Convention. Second place will receive a \$5,000 scholarship; third place a \$2,500 scholarship; fourth place a \$1,500 scholarship; and fifth through eighth place will receive \$500 scholarships. Students may contact their school art teachers for contest rules and entries or go to the Ladies Auxiliary VFW website at www.ladiesaux.org. Deadline for artwork to be received by the LAVFW Post 4869 is March 31, 2012.

For more information contact Susan Ledford, LAVFW Post 4869 President and Youth Activities chair at (580) 257-0094 or email d.sledford2@gmail.com.

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